



THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON.

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Editorial Notes

At a meeting of the Proprietors' Labour Federation Committee held in Colombo on the 18th July, it was decided to fix September the fifteenth as the date upon which the list of Federated Estates is to be closed. All Proprietors have been notified to this effect and definite replies—either yes or no—have been asked for. This is undoubtedly a wise move. If by that date, six weeks from now, Federation has failed to secure its requisite majority 75%, it will then be time for the Planters' Association to meet again and decide whether Government is to be asked to legislate or whether things are to run on as best as they can. The success of the Federation still hangs in the balance, it is true, but its prospects are much brighter than they were a short time ago. Broadly speaking, the three bodies of opinion upon whose vote Federation depends are Agents in London, Agents in Colombo, and the community of working planters. If all three combine, success is certain, but if any body largely dissents and has power to give effect to its dissent, then the Federation must fail to obtain a footing. At the present time the Colombo opinion is almost solid in favour of the combination, London almost equally so, and it rests to a great extent with the large body of smaller interests to make or mar the scheme. This is rather a curious position, for it is these small interests who will suffer the most if competition for labour becomes acute. In the meantime things are settling down of themselves. The enormous increase in planted land has ceased, and coolies are coming over from India more freely than ever before.

If, as we greatly hope, the Federation is successful, all these new coolies will land free in Ceylon, and their accounts will be kept by their employers. So will there pass away from us the reproach that the indebtedness of our labour force has brought upon us.

Another resolution at this same meeting of the Proprietors' Labour Federation on the 18th July is of great importance, not from the amount of money involved, but as an indication of the extended policy of the Federation. It has been decided to offer Rs. 15,000 to the Planters' Association to be devoted to the promotion of Coast Recruiting for the benefit of members of the Proprietors' Labour Federation. Until this offer has been discussed by the Planters' Association, it is impos-

sible to say more, but it appears to indicate a combined effort by both of these bodies, as was foreshadowed in the joint letter, signed by Messrs. F. H. Layard and R. Huyshe-Elliott, published in our last number. And this small beginning must inevitably lead to the direct recruiting of labour in districts of India at present closed to us save through the undesirable offices of the professional recruiters.

The notes on cultivation by dynamite, which Mr. Bond has kindly contributed, are most informing, and really give one a much better idea of the value of the experiment than it was possible to gather at the crowded exhibition given in Peradeniya Gardens. Mr. Doolan, the expert, sent out by Messrs. Nobel's knew his job thoroughly and was quite willing to answer questions, but the conditions rather robbed the experiments of their value. To begin with the crowd of several hundred people, including many ladies, swarmed over the ground and were rather disappointed by the "Show," the ground was a very soft free soil, recently soaked thoroughly through by heavy rain, and hardly afforded a fair test, and all of the charges had been placed ready and were marked with little red flags. This seems rather an important point. Of course Mr. Doolan and his skilled assistant can place charges just as they please, but if explosives were used on a large scale for agricultural purposes all of this most important work would have to be delegated to the coolies, who could hardly be expected to rival the experts in accuracy. We would have preferred to see the charges actually being inserted. The idea of breaking up hard pan and gravelly sub-soil is fascinating. It opens such possibilities for poor soil. But before it is much used in old planted lands its cheapness will have to be very definitely proved. For holing in New Clearings there is little doubt that dynamite will be used largely. We would like to record our appreciation of the Director of Agriculture's enterprise in arranging for the exhibition by Mr. Doolan.

Dr. Rutherford, the Acting P.C.M.O., has very kindly furnished us with type plans of coolie lines and estate wells. These are being reproduced and will be issued with the next number of the *Gazette*, when planters should find them most useful. We are further able to give prominence to an offer to supply Emetine pills at cost price, and hope that he has got in a huge stock as the demand will, or ought to be, enormous.

Dr. Rutherford writes :—

"I have received a supply of the Emetine pills at the Civil Medical Stores. They can be supplied to Superintendents of estates at cost price (Rs. 3-50 per vial of 25). They are to be given by the month, so planters will be able to treat all their dysentery cases."

We are sure that prompt and appreciative orders will follow this excellent offer.

We offer our most hearty congratulations to Sir Edward Rosling on the honour he has received. If by long, able, strenuous, and unselfish public service a man can win honour, then is Sir Edward rightly honoured.

"RUTHERFORD'S NOTE BOOK." (5th Edition.)

We have good reason to believe that a section of the Planting Community holds the opinion that the younger generation of planters—the men of "Tea" and "Rubber"—are altogether ignorant and inefficient in knowledge of their work, and management of labour, when compared with the older generation of planters—the men of "Pepper" and "Coffee," let us say—and we have equally good reason to know that another section of the Planting Community holds—and expresses—a diametrically opposite opinion! We have no sort of intention to take part in such bitter and dangerous controversy, but we venture to express our opinion, that the possession, and careful study, of the book under review, should give the planter of to-day easy acquirement of knowledge the older planter could only arrive at by long years of experience—and perhaps that is why the "old" planter really is, no—we have said we take no part in such controversy—let us to the book.

"Rutherford's" 5th Edition is immeasurably an advance on the 1887 publication, and all Eastern Planters must welcome it. A notable addition is the Book-keeping Section, and a most valuable and well compiled section it is. We could add nothing to it—hold it above criticism—and express our opinion that of all the mass of useful information in the book this Section will prove to be the most valuable and helpful to the young planter taking up his first charge. So much of the other information, as to rates, etc., varies greatly according to district, product and elevation, and has perforce to be adjusted to real usefulness by local experience; but not so the book-keeping section. The "double entry" principle of book-keeping—which is so thoroughly and simply set forth here—is the same in any business, in any part of the world; and the wholly excellent "first lesson" given, from the last paragraph on page 389 to the end of page 392, needs in addition only the exercise of quite ordinary intelligence to make any one a competent account keeper, whether his business is planting in Ceylon, or running a sardine factory on the East Coast of Scotland.

For the rest the book contains a vast amount of useful information, and the old parts have been very fairly well brought up to date. Any such work as this must always be open to easy criticism from local and individual points of view, on small items of cost and yields, etc., but

the real objective of the "Note-book" has been completely attained in that it is, *facile princeps*, the Ceylon Planters' guide, philosopher and friend. Its usefulness does not end there, for Estate Agency Firms, Engineers, and all connected with Eastern Produce can go no where to get the indispensable information contained in this well bound—well printed—and well indexed Volume.

We offer a suggestion for future editions :—That through District Associations there should be collected "local rates" of wages, transport, etc., etc.

There are to be found some interesting little groups of figures that tempt one to speculate where the compiler worked and how he arrived at the totals—for instance, page 152 :—

"Number of plucking days in a year" :—

Kelani Valley	...	290
Gampola	...	270
Dickoya	...	260
Agras	...	295

THE KELANI VALLEY.—It is a very seductive Club is Taldua—but 75 days a year "off!" (and if you can't pluck, neither can you tap.) All work and no play may make Jack a dull boy—but 75 days a year *slacking!* The Kelani Valley "Bhoys" will never admit it.

GAMPOLA.—95 days a year without work! Well H. K. E. lived there and he should know.

DICKOYA.—105 "off" days! Tut, Tut, these bridge-playing proprietors!

AGRAS.—It is a fine climate and so perhaps right that they should work more days a year there than in other districts; but even they are encouraged to demand their 70 days a year; Young "Nuts" of Diyagama, read, mark, and straightway claim your rights; but don't blame us if you get more than you ask for! The fact is that for long past the working Sundays have far exceeded the climatic "can't work" days, and there are few estates now where the Assistant gets all his Sundays "off." We tender our thanks and congratulations to Mr. Rutherford and his collaborators for the 5th Edition; and to the Editors of that invaluable and great compilation, FERGUSON'S DIRECTORY, we say, "Beware! there is a rival in the field!"

PLANTATION v. PARA.

It is not so very many years ago that the Ceylon Planters had to fight the China Tea Merchant, and long and expensive though the fight was, it ended successfully and profitably.

From the present price of Plantation Rubber as compared with Para it would appear that Ceylon—and we may, with confidence, look to Malaya for active support—must shortly get to close grips with the Brazilian producers. If there is to be a difference of 8d. per pound between the two Rubbers, that 8d. ought to be in favour of the dry and clean plantation product, unless there is some inherent quality in the Para Rubber which is non-existent (or latent owing to faulty methods of manufacture) in Plantation Rubber.

The existence of any such quality in Para Rubber has not as yet, we believe, been satisfactorily proved, and if it is there, we ought then to be able to find out if it is due to the smoking, the slow drying and seasoning, or to the fact

that the rubber is in tension, or to a combination of all three. If the quality does not exist it should not be very difficult to prove conclusively to the manufacturer that he is paying 8d. per pound for a myth, some dirt, and a large quantity of water.

We are well aware that Fine Hard Cure, as most of us know it in Ceylon, has apparently many superior properties to the best plantation, but it should be remembered that it is always shown to us in the initial stages of its manufacture, and we must confess to absolute ignorance as to its appearance when it has reached the same stage of manufacture as Plantation Rubber, i.e., when it has been through the manufacturer's machines and is clean and dry.

While there is ample scope for the scientist and his investigations, the need for practical tests must not be lost sight of; there is much truth in the saying that an ounce of practice is worth a pound of theory, but to be of any use the practical tests must be on a large and generous scale.

In the matter of Motor tyres it would be quite possible, we imagine, to have, say, 500 tyres made from Plantation Rubber only, 500 from Plantation and Para mixed, and 500 from Para only—in all other respects identical and, of course, to be made by a firm of repute. A few tyres of each sort could be given to the Royal Automobile Club to be tested, and the rest handed over to any London Taxi-cab Company who would undertake to run them to destruction on the back wheels of their cabs, and to keep records of the mileage basis.

We should then know, fairly accurately, how we stood in respect to the tyre trade and could turn our attention to some other articles and proceed on similar lines. Of one thing we can be perfectly certain, and that is that when the consumer specifies Para (as many of them do) the manufacturer is not going to try and prove to him that Plantation Rubber is equally suitable for the purpose. If any real progress is to be made in this direction it must be made by the producers and the producer must supply the necessary funds.

At present the provision of the sinews of war is the difficulty, there are always so many ready to reap where others have sown that a voluntary subscription, for such a purpose as this, is not likely to meet with any great support. There remains, therefore, a Cess; but we are at once confronted with the fact that a Cess—at least on the lines of the late Tea Cess—is not looked on favourably by Government. There is, however, one opening left and that is via the Agricultural Department. It might be possible to persuade Government, in the interests of this Department—and not, of course, of the Planters—to pass an Ordinance giving the Governor in Executive Council, and on the advice of the Director of Agriculture, power to levy an export duty on any Agricultural product when the Department required funds for furthering the interests of that product.

We should then have a fund, administered, it is true, by a Government Department, but in a matter of this kind we may assume, with confidence, that those who pay the piper will be allowed to call the tune.

RAGALA CAMP OF OBSERVATION.

Government and the Planting Community have co-operated in carrying out the various reforms, improvements, and innovations, suggested by the severe cholera epidemic of two years back. There are now two Camps (which together contain 31 divisions of accommodation varying from that required for 90 to that required for 250 coolies). Before the outbreak there was but one Camp in use. An additional Apothecary, Special Sanitary Overseers and Patrols, Extra Watchers, and a much larger Latrine and Scavenging force have been now appointed by Government to cope with the heavier work involved in the distribution of the estate coolies in Camp over a larger area than before.

Both Government and the Planters realise that Ceylon must be kept free from the ravages of cholera and plague. For this purpose, Ragama, and other Quarantine Camps are maintained.

The immigrant coolies sight Ceylon about 6 a.m. After their disembarkation, disinfection, and feeding at the wharf have been completed, they leave for Ragama by special train about 12-30 p.m. On arrival at Ragama, they are conducted to the clean disinfected wards already prepared for them, for the Ragama authorities are each night advised by wire how many coolies will be arriving on the morrow.

The kanganies, or others, in charge of Tin Ticket coolies, are then brought down to the Office and issued Diet Chits in exchange for their Tin Tickets, which are collected from them. They next receive from the Contractor's store, on presentation of these Diet Chits, their provisions (cost of which is borne by the Planting Community) for the first three days' stay in Camp. When supplied, they retire to their sheds, where they are left undisturbed for the rest of the first day.

On the second day they are registered on Ragama Certificates for the estate to which they are bound, on this day, too, telegrams advising the forthcoming despatch of coolies are sent to the estate.

On the morning of the third day in Camp the coolies receive provisions (paid for by Government) for the latter portion of their stay. The remainder of the third, and the whole of the fourth day, the coolies remain in the Camp.

The fifth and last day is a busy one. First comes the collection of their clothes for disinfection; then the bath and the temporary supply of Government cloths; then, after the morning meal; the issuing of their own, now disinfected, cloths; the evening meal; the distribution of Railway Tickets; and, finally, the giving out of the travelling diet, as the coolies are leaving the Camp. They then leave by train.

On the sixth day, their Tin Tickets and Ragama Certificates are forwarded under registered cover to their estates. On that, and subsequent days, the bills for the coolies' telegrams, registered letters, diets, sundries, and rail fares have to be made out. From the seventh day onwards correspondence about the coolies' demands the attention of the Staff.

A well to improve the water supply is now being sunk; fresh pumps are being fitted, and "first aid" wards for immediate treatment of these attacked by cholera have been erected. The Camp has been connected with Colombo by telephone; and the various important spots in the Camp, including the Talagalla Cholera Hospital, are also being joined up to the Head Office by wire.

C. B. COCKAINE,

Acting Supt., Ragama Camp.

DYNAMITE CULTIVATION.

Some experiments were held at Warriapola on July 7th and 8th in the above method of cultivation by Mr. T. J. Doolan, Messrs. Nobel & Co.'s expert, who afterwards gave a demonstration at Peradeniya.

The land at Warriapola on which the tests were carried out was planted in Rubber about 15 years old, interplanted with worn out tea and, to the best of my knowledge, had never been manured or forked. The soil was hard and kabooky and the object aimed at was the breaking up of the hard surface, to make use of the subsoil and to preserve the rain.

Mr. Doolan first tried two test shots to decide what charge placed at what depth would be most suitable for the conditions there encountered. He concluded from these that half cartridges placed at a depth of 20" at the rate of 100 to the acre would be sufficient. The rubber was planted about 20' by 20', and the holes were placed between every four trees. Four coolies were employed in making the holes, for which pointed crowbars made of octagon steel 1" in diameter were used. The time occupied in boring these 100 holes was 25 minutes. In the meantime, Mr. Doolan and his assistant had made and pinned the charges, which were then placed in the holes and tamped lightly down with loose earth.

The time occupied for the whole experiment (over one acre of land) from the cutting of the first hole to the explosion of the last charge was 2 hours.

The area of disturbance caused by each charge was about 3 feet in radius from the centre of the hole.

Very little earth is displaced by the exploding of even a full cartridge—rather the ground heaves up a little and then settles down—leaving cracks extending in all directions.

If the loose earth is cleared out a bottle-shaped cavity is found about 3' deep, while the cracks seen on the surface extend to a similar depth. The cost is as follows:—

One half cartridge costs	6 cents
One detonator	2 "
Two feet fuse	2 "
Cooly labour (roughly)	1 "

so that each charge costs 11 cents or an equivalent of 11/- per acre for 100 shots.

The conclusion formed from this experiment and from others of a similar nature seems pretty generally to be that for making holes for planting either rubber or cocoa, the use of dynamite has very great possibilities

for breaking up hard ground. It seems to me that at least 400 shots should be fired to the acre, which would cost about 45/-, and except in countries where cheap labour is unavailable it must be questioned whether thorough forking would not answer just as well at about a tenth of the cost.

Indeed, for any other purpose except that of making holes for planting, this method of agriculture would seem too costly and too much in the experimental stage at present to embark upon.

As at Peradeniya, Mr. Doolan also showed how to blast large rocks without boring holes and to remove stumps of trees, &c.

J. A. M. BOND.

RUBBER TREE DISEASES.

LECTURE BY MR. T. PETCH TO THE KELANI VALLEY P. A.

On Saturday, July 6th, 1913.

I regret to say that I have no new diseases to offer you, but I hope to be able to give you a few new points about the old ones. Root diseases are much less in evidence at present, so much so that one of the London papers has declared that *Fomes semitossus* does not exist in Ceylon. Most of the specimens now sent in as root diseases are causes of "canker" at the collar. But we still have our stem diseases, and they require all the attention you can give them.

CANKER.

The chief stem disease is, of course, the well-known Hevea "canker." I am afraid it is not as well-known as it ought to be. This is a painting which shows characteristic Hevea canker in its fully developed form after the outer layers of the cortex have been cut away. As you will see, the diseased area forms a claret-coloured patch, sometimes mottled with black, surrounded by a definite line.

Unfortunately these coloured patches are hidden by the outer brown bark, and they are not evident until the bark is scraped. The external signs of canker are in many cases very slight—the bark may be a little darker over the diseased spot. But there is one indication which is almost always a sign of canker, and that is the exudation of a rusty-coloured or red-brown liquid which dries in small streaks, up to an inch long, on the bark. These streaks are not produced in the very earliest stage of the disease, but they appear, in the majority of cases, before the disease has penetrated completely through the cortex to the wood. It is quite easy when walking through a field to "spot" these red-brown streaks, and when one affected tree has been discovered, the surrounding trees, which may not show them, should be examined, and any dark patches lightly scraped, to determine whether they have "canker" in an earlier stage in which the bleeding has not yet begun. You must not confuse this bleeding with the exudations of latex which result in the formation of streaks of black rubber on the stem. This red brown liquid I am speaking of does not contain any rubber. Streaks of rubber on the stem—that is, exudations of latex—are not a sign of any definite disease as far as we know at present.

Canker is quite unmistakable as soon as the bark is scraped. On normal Hevea bark, the layer which underlies the outer brown bark is usually green, and the laticiferous layer is white, yellowish, or clear red. So if healthy bark is scraped, the first living layer met with is green, and if that is scraped off, the cortex beneath is white, or clear red, or mottled red and white. The clear red cortex is usually only found on very old trees. But when cankered bark is scraped, the layer immediately beneath the outer brown bark is black, and if that is cut off the cortex is found to be a dirty red which rapidly darkens to claret colour. If the whole of the diseased patch is laid bare, it will usually be found to be separated from the surrounding healthy cortex by a black line as in the painting.

There is an earlier stage than this, in which the diseased cortex is not claret-coloured. When first attacked the cortex is greyish yellow and appears sodden. That discoloration occurs in patches bordered by a black line as in the fully-developed canker, and, as before, the layer immediately beneath the outer brown bark is black. In all cases of canker, the cortex is softer and more flexible than normal cortex so long as the disease is active. Cortex which is brown throughout, and dry and brittle, is quite dead and may have died from a variety of causes. To diagnose canker offhand, it must be seen in a fresh state, though it is possible in many cases to decide whether scales of bark are the result of canker or not.

Cankered bark has a peculiar smell which attracts boring beetles, particularly a small brown beetle about the size of shot-hole borer. Whenever borers attack a living Hevea, canker should be suspected. We receive numerous specimens showing damage attributed to borers, and in practically all cases it turns out that the tree has been previously attacked by canker or pink disease. It is fairly safe to say, in the light of our present knowledge, that all the borers found in the main stem of Hevea, follow a previous attack of fungus disease of some kind, usually "canker" or "pink disease."

Whenever trees cease to yield latex, they should be examined for "canker." "Drying up" is not necessarily a sign of canker; some trees cease to yield without any apparent cause, and subsequently recover. But a badly cankered tree will often cease to yield before the outward indications of canker are visible, particularly if the cankered patch occurs between the tapping cuts. So it is best to make a practice of scraping lightly here and there when the tree ceases to yield. That is particularly necessary when the latex flows from one or two cuts and not from the others—but I suppose, with modern systems of tapping, that is an impossible observation now.

The disease begins in the outer layer of the cortex and gradually penetrates to the cambium. At the same time it spreads laterally in all directions. In some cases it forms a patch up to four feet in length on one side of the tree only, but, as a rule, it spreads both vertically and laterally, though more rapidly vertically. The ultimate effect on the tree varies. We may take the extreme case first, in which the tree is killed outright in a few weeks. In such cases, the fungus penetrates right through the cortex to the wood, and at the same time spreads all round the stem. In that way the tree is ringed and dies immediately. The bark is usually perfectly smooth and unbroken, as it has not had time to dry up and crack before the tree died. There will usually be an abundant flow of the brown liquid, and in a very short time the tree will be riddled by beetles. That was a common occurrence in 1905; in fact I think I may say it was the usual run of the disease. In recent years the effect has not been so serious, and there seemed to be some reason to believe that the disease had become less virulent, but I have seen several cases this year in which the result has been exactly the same as in 1905.

Equally disastrous is an attack of canker at the collar. In that situation, probably because it is damper there, the disease has usually obtained a good hold before it is discovered. It kills the cortex all round the base of the stem, along the lateral roots and down the tap root. It is a mistake to suppose that "canker" will not affect the roots. It does not begin its attack on the roots underground, but if it begins at the base of the stem, it travels downwards more rapidly, as a rule, than upwards.

The general run of the disease during the last two or three years has not been so serious as in the cases just described. We may distinguish two general appearances, though they do not represent differences in the manner of attack, but only in degree. In both cases the tree may be said to heal itself.

What happens is this: The fungus begins its attack on the outer layers of the cortex in the ordinary way. It produces the usual coloured patch and penetrates, sometimes right through the cortex to the wood, sometimes only halfway through. Then it stops, and the tree begins to cut out the diseased patch by a layer of cork cells. While the disease is active, the symptoms are those already described—the diseased patch is claret-coloured and moist. But when the

tree begins to cut out the diseased bark, the dead part dries up, and becomes brown and brittle, and forms a scale which can be easily removed by prising it off with a knife at one edge.

If the disease has not penetrated completely through the cortex, the cortex underneath the scale is white and contains latex. Between the scale and this healthy white cortex, there is a soft white layer, which usually comes off with the scale. That is the layer of cork cells which makes it possible to remove the scale. When it dries on the scale, it forms a continuous, semi-transparent layer. As the scale dries, it usually shrinks slightly, so that the surface of the bark becomes rough, cracked, and scaly. Cracked bark is frequently a sign of canker, but it is not, as a rule, canker in an active condition; it is canker which has begun to heal up. Of course, scales may be formed from other causes; nodules, for example, will crack the bark and cause the formation of scales. But it is usually possible to identify canker scales by the presence of the red stains on the outer side, and the continuous horny layer on the inner. Brown scales embedded in healthy bark are almost always due to "canker." But it must be emphasised that this scale formation is the last stage of canker, and the disease should be discovered earlier.

If the disease has penetrated right through the cortex to the wood and then stopped, the appearance is slightly different. A scale is formed, but, as all the cortex is killed down to the wood, in the middle of the patch at least, there is no white laticiferous tissue left in the centre. Instead, there is an open wound exposing the wood. Usually, the scale persists over the wound for some time, and when it is discovered and removed, the wound is found to be surrounded by a swollen margin—what is known as a callus. The wound is, in fact, healing up; and from the thickness of the callus we can estimate how long ago the tree was attacked. I have had a number of these cases sent in, in which the wound was filled with roots arising from the callus. The explanation of that is quite simple. The patch of dead bark keeps the wound moist—indeed water often collects in the cavity between the scale and the wood—and this moisture induces the formation of roots from the surrounding cortex. But the formation of roots is a sign that the surrounding cortex is healthy. When this phenomenon is observed all that need be done is to cut off the roots and tar the wound.

The differences in the effect produced in different cases of canker are, I believe, only due to differences in climatic conditions or in the relative dampness of different situations. If the weather is continuously wet, we may expect trees to be killed outright; but if alternate wet and dry periods occur, the disease will stop during the dry weather, and consequently the affected patches of cortex will be scaled out. But as we cannot control the weather, we cannot ensure that the less serious effect will always happen.

THE FUNGUS.

The fungus which causes canker is a *Phytophthora*, a member of the same family as the fungus which is the cause of the most serious potato disease. It does not produce any large fructifications or strands of mycelium, and therefore it cannot be detected without a microscope. It permeates the diseased tissue, and ultimately puts out a small tuft of threads which produce lemon-shaped bodies known as sporangia. These sporangia become detached, and are washed away by the rain, or blown away to other trees. If the sporangium falls upon a wet surface, its contents divide up into a number of small masses of protoplasm. Then the apex ruptures, and these masses are extruded. Each is provided with two threads which are in constant movement, and with the aid of these it swims about in the film of water. These masses are called zoospores. Ultimately they come to rest, round off and enclose themselves in a cell wall, and finally germinate like ordinary spores. The germ tube, or primary thread, bores into the cortex of the Hevea, and so reproduces the disease.

Under certain conditions, the fungus produces "resting spores"—thick walled spores which preserve it through the dry weather. These spores carry the fungus over from one wet season to the next, but the chief means of spread during the wet weather is the sporangium and the zoospore.

The same fungus attacks Hevea fruits, and causes the well-known pod disease. It is to be expected, therefore, that an extensive outbreak of pod disease will be followed by an increase of "canker." The fungus of Hevea canker is the same as that which causes cacao canker, and the symptoms of the two diseases are practically identical.

TREATMENT.

Treatment of canker must vary with the case. If the tree has begun to heal itself, that is if the diseased cortex is in detachable scales, these scales should be taken off and burnt. The disease at that time has stopped, and it might be argued that, in that case, there is nothing to be gained by taking off the scales. But I have seen several cases in which the disease has started again under the scale, and that seems to be a fairly frequent occurrence. There are also many cases in which the disease begins at the side of, or a short distance from, an old scale, and that most probably represents a reinfection from the latter. Consequently, I think it is sound policy to remove the old scales. This removal exposes the healthy laticiferous cortex, and the question arises whether it is necessary to protect that. That again depends on the circumstances. If the work is carried out in wet weather, or when the tree is in full leaf, the exposed cortex might be left uncovered; in a short time it will protect itself by forming a layer of cork. But if the weather is dry, or the trees leafless, the exposed cortex will dry up, and under those conditions, it must be protected. Taking all things into consideration, I should advise that in both cases, it is safest to paint the exposed cortex with Bordeaux mixture and then cover it with cowdung and clay. Old canker wounds which extend to the wood should be tarred.

When the disease is discovered in an active condition, that is, when the discoloration is spreading and the formation of scales has not begun, a different method must be adopted. Formerly it was advised that all the discoloured patch should be cut out. That involves the excision of a good deal of healthy cortex, and frequently causes a wound extending down to the wood, even when the disease has not progressed so far. It has been found possible in many cases to modify that treatment. The outer part of the diseased cortex is scraped away, and the whole of the patch laid bare, but the scraping is not continued into the sound tissue. It may be scraped until minute points of latex appear. The tree is then left until the remnants of the diseased patch dry up and can be scaled off. The trees must be carefully watched, and if the disease shows signs of spreading instead of scaling out, then the method must be changed to that of cutting out all the diseased tissue. Patches which are scraped and left to dry out must not be covered with cowdung and clay until the scales have formed and been taken off. Whatever the treatment, all the scales and pieces cut off must be collected, taken away, and burnt. The cooly should be provided with a piece of jute hessian to be placed at the foot of the tree so that the pieces fall on it.

In cases of canker at the collar, it will be best to cut away all the diseased tissue at once and not leave it to scale off. The earth should be cleared away for a depth of two or three inches round the base of the stem so that the diseased patch is clear of the soil if possible. But care should be taken not to leave a hollow which will fill up with water. It is usually possible to allow for drainage down the slope.

After an outbreak of pod disease, the diseased fruits should be collected and burnt, in order to prevent infection of the stem by the fungus on the fruit.

Another means of prevention is spraying with Bordeaux mixture. If the stems were sprayed just before the monsoon, the chances of infection would be considerably diminished. Spraying has been carried out successfully in Southern India against Pink Disease, and I think it will have to be adopted against canker. It may be noted that there have not been any complaints from India that the spraying has had any injurious effect on the rubber. That is the only possible objection to spraying with Bordeaux mixture. The mixture dries on the tree, and the copper compounds, which are slowly dissolved by the rain, kill any fungus spores which happen to alight on it. That raises a difficulty, in theory at least, for the copper compounds may be washed into the latex. The amount of copper on the tree is very small, and the quantity which is dissolved

at any time is smaller still, so the amount which can get into the latex is infinitesimal. But the point is a very important one, because copper turns rubber tacky. An experiment on this point was carried out at Peradeniya last year. Trees were sprayed with Bordeaux mixture. The first heavy rain occurred five days afterwards, and the rubber collected on the following day was kept separate and analysed. The analysis showed 0.0016 per cent. of copper, that is about one part in 500,000, and the scrap 0.003 per cent. The rubber from this row of trees for the next seven months' tapping was kept separate, and carefully examined. It did not show any discolorations due to the copper, nor did it turn tacky, while the percentage of scrap was not higher than from the neighbouring unsprayed trees. It would appear from this that the amount of copper which can get into the latex after spraying with Bordeaux mixture is not likely to have any injurious effect on the rubber. The amount of copper present in the latex may be expected to be greatest immediately after the spraying, so the percentages quoted may be taken as somewhere near the maximum. All spouts should be removed before spraying; in the present instance that was not done.

It has been suggested that this difficulty might be avoided by spraying with lime-sulphur instead of Bordeaux mixture. Unfortunately, it has been proved that lime-sulphur wash does not kill *Phytophthora*.

It is only necessary to spray the stem up to a height of about six feet. Canker does occur higher up the tree than that, but comparatively rarely. Most of the attacks are within three feet from the ground.

The question of the most suitable sprayer is one which has not yet been answered satisfactorily for the Tropics. Hand sprayers are not economical on a large scale, and were early supplanted, in all countries where spraying is systematically carried out, by knapsack sprayers. Now the knapsack sprayer has been displaced by barrel sprayers on wheels, or power sprayers, i.e., pumps worked by steam or gas engines. The latter are not suitable for the majority of Ceylon estates, because they can only be worked on fairly level ground. That throws us back on the knapsack sprayer. Of that there are two types. In the one, the liquid is contained in a receiver under pressure, and the cooly has only to direct the jet. In the other, the liquid is pumped out as required, and the cooly has, therefore, to pump with one hand and direct the jet with the other. Theoretically the former is the better, and it is actually when it is new. But in a very short time, the taps become worn, and as the liquid is under constant pressure it leaks from the taps and a large proportion of it is wasted. For that reason I prefer the second type, the sprayer furnished with a pump. There are two kinds of the first type, the pressure sprayer: in one the liquid is forced in under pressure; in the other, the liquid is poured in, and the pressure obtained by pumping in air. The waste of time in filling the first of these is appalling and is quite sufficient to condemn that kind.

There is another point which has not yet been considered sufficiently by makers of sprayers. Most of them are made to hold four gallons, sometimes five. Now, four gallons of water weigh 40 lbs., and in addition to that there is the weight of the sprayer. The total weight may be well within the capacity of the labourer in temperate climates, but it is rather too much for the cooly. We require a smaller sprayer.

DECAY OF THE TAPPED CORTEX.

The second disease I wish to talk about is the decay which often occurs on the tapped cortex. It frequently happens that the thin layer of original cortex which is left overlying the cambium dies in patches. This occurs especially in wet weather, and is more common, apparently, during the N. E. than the S. W. monsoon. The decaying patches usually run vertically, and first appear on the exposed cortex within an inch of the tapping cut. The first thing noticed is the appearance of narrow sunken vertical lines just above the cut. Along these lines the thin residual layer of original cortex is sunken, and if it is cut away a narrow black streak will be found extending into the wood. The black line indicates a region of decay.

What ultimately happens depends to a great extent upon the weather. If it continues wet, the black lines extend upwards and downwards and, at the same time, increase in width. If a number of these lines have arisen close together they may coalesce, and thus a wide horizontal strip of renewing cortex

may be destroyed. But more usually a number of parallel vertical wounds are formed. When the dry weather sets in, this decay stops and the wounds begin to heal up. But the renewal is, in any case rough, and where several wounds have coalesced, so much cortex is destroyed that renewal cannot be completed for many years.

This decay of the tapped surface is often attributed to bad tapping. However, it is, as a rule, quite easy to distinguish. Wounds due to tapping are seldom vertical; they are more usually horizontal. But there is a better guide than that. When the tapper cuts into the wood, he removes all the cortex overlying the wound and exposes the wood, which can easily be recognised by its vertical fibres. But when this decay occurs, the thin layer of cortex which is left after tapping is continuous over the wound. It is usually sunk below the level of the surrounding healthy cortex, but it is unmistakably there. Even when the wounds are six months old and have acquired a swollen margin, the dead layer of cortex may generally be found overlying the wood in the wound.

This decay occurs both in Ceylon and the F. M. S., and in neither country has any explanation of it been found, except that it may be caused by the action of rain water on the newly-exposed inner layer of the cortex. In Java it is attributed to canker, but there everything is attributed to canker at present. Bacteria and a *Nectria* have been found in these woods in Ceylon, but inoculations with both these have failed to reproduce the decay.

Hitherto, it has not been considered advisable to stop tapping when this decay appeared. Nor has it been considered necessary to cut out the decayed cortex, because the wounds made by cutting out were, in many cases, larger than those which would have been caused if it had been left untouched. A method of treatment, which is said to have given good results, has, however, been adopted in Java, and, as this decay has serious effects as far as regards the renewed bark, it should be adopted here. The Java treatment is as follows:—As soon as the narrow vertical lines are observed, the tree is put out of tapping. The decaying tapped surface is then washed every four or five days with a fifty per cent. solution of carbolineum Plantarium. In about four weeks the tree can be tapped again. If a large patch has decayed, the dead cortex is cut out before treating with Carbolineum.

It has not been possible to try this treatment yet, because I have not succeeded in obtaining this particular Carbolineum. There are numerous brands of Carbolineum on the market, and many of them cannot be applied to living trees. The name is a trade one, applied to certain tar products, and there is no guarantee that the substances sold by different makers have the same composition. These products were first brought out as insecticides, and they have fallen somewhat into disrepute through the extravagant claims of their makers that they would cure all fungus diseases as well as kill all insects. It is necessary, therefore, to get the right brand. The particular brand which has been used in Java is Carbolineum Plantarium, made by E. Nettesheim, Venlo, Holland. It is a "soluble" Carbolineum, i.e., one which will mix with water in all proportions to form an emulsion. Probably other "soluble" Carbolineums would do as well, but it would be necessary to determine their effect on the renewing bark before applying them on a large scale.

NODULES.

The third serious system affection is the production of nodules. Very little new information has been obtained about this, and no one has yet succeeded in proving any connection between these nodules and any insect or fungus. As far as we know, they cannot be attributed to either.

We may distinguish two forms of these nodules, in the early stages at least. The commonest form of nodule in Ceylon begins as a small sphere or cylinder of wood in the middle of the cortex. Its nucleus consists of a small group of brown cells. A cambium, quite distinct from the main cambium of the stem, develops round this group of cells, and then proceeds to build a sphere of wood round them. As the nodule increases in size, it develops points directed inwards, which ultimately unite to the main wood of the stem. It is quite easy to remove these nodules when they are small, before they have become united to the main stem.

If several of these nodules arise close together, they may fuse and form a plate. But the formation of plates often takes place in a different manner. Instead of a group, more or less

spherical, of brown cells, the nucleus of a plate is a sheet of them. I have on several occasions found these sheets of brown cells in the middle of what was, to all appearance, healthy cortex. They are pale yellow-brown, sometimes continuous for several inches, but usually interrupted here and there so as to form a netted or perforated plate. They are extremely thin, but they may extend up the stem for several feet. It is just as though one found an additional layer of brown bark inside the cortex. The laticiferous tissue, the white cortex, on one side of this layer is completely separated from that on the other side. I have seen this layer in cortex which has not been tapped, as well as in renewing bark. If a cambium is developed round this brown sheet, a plate of wood is formed. These plates may be distinguished from those produced by the branch of small nodules, at least in the early stages, by their enormous extension compared with their thickness. They may be 2 or 3 feet in length, while only about one-eighth of an inch thick. As a rule, they are not continuous, but perforated.

The nuclei of the spherical nodule and the perforated plate are composed of the same cells, but they differ in the quantity involved. It is to be expected therefore that the cause will be the same in both cases. But what that cause is we cannot say. It is scarcely correct to say that the nodule or plate is formed round a group or layer of dead cells in the cortex; the plate, at least, is formed round a layer of cells which does not appear at all in normal cortex, and which should rather be regarded as an additional structure.

These nodules have been attributed in many cases to "dormant" buds. The dormant bud is produced in the following way. On a stem which is producing leaves, it is possible to have a bud in the axil of each leaf, that is, in the angle between the leaf stalk and the stem. Many of these buds do not develop into shoots, but remain latent—asleep, as it were—and are able to develop into shoots, years afterwards, if the tree is pollarded. On oak and beech trees, they are said to persist alive but inactive, for hundreds of years. But—and this is where our difficulties begin—the bud is, of course, formed at the beginning on the outside of the stem, and as the stem increases in thickness, it remains on the outside. Further, it is connected, internally, with the wood of the year in which it was formed, and its pith is continuous with the pith of the stem. As the main stem thickens, this connection lengthens.

Now, it should be quite evident that in *Hevea* there is no connection between the wood of the stem and the developing nodule, nor is the nodule formed from the exterior. The nodule begins in the middle of the cortex, quite free from the main wood. It is "up to" those who uphold the dormant bud theory to prove (1) that dormant buds, such as occur in the oak are produced by *Hevea*; and (2) that the nodules are connected with the main wood of the stem from the beginning, at least in the majority of cases.

However, most people who write of "dormant buds" do not really mean "dormant" buds, but "adventitious buds." These latter are not buds which have been formed years previously and have remained latent, but buds which suddenly arise on old stems where there was no trace of bud structure before. Most of the shoots which appear when a tree is cut down arise from adventitious buds. There was no sign of a bud before the tree was cut, but it has developed them subsequently. Such buds are continuous with the wood of the year in which they are produced. Here, again, this phenomenon does not fit the case of nodules because the nodule is not, in its initial stages, connected with the main wood. There does not appear to me to be any reasons, certainly no reasons have yet been put forward—why, nodules should be attributed to bud formation. We know that they arise round certain groups of cells, and what we want to know further is why those groups of cells exist. By attributing nodules to dormant buds, we merely obscure the problem. Probably observers have been misled by the fact that nodules will sometimes give rise to shoots. Such shoots arise from adventitious buds which are connected to the outermost layer of wood of the nodule. Their occurrence on nodules is not surprising, seeing that the latter, when projecting, constitute terminal points.

Recently Dr. Rutgers, of Java, has claimed that nodules are the result of "canker." He has apparently seen the yellow-brown sheets I have referred to, and has, quite correctly, decided that they form the nuclei of the thin plate form of nodule. But he considers that the yellow-brown sheet is produced by an attack of canker and hence "nodules" are to

be attributed to canker. It is difficult to agree with his conclusions. He does not contend that the fungus penetrates into the cortex and produces the layer of yellow-brown cells by directly attacking it; in that case he would have to demonstrate the presence of *fungus hyphae* in that layer. But he thinks that the canker fungus may excrete some poisonous substance which penetrates into the cortex and so produces these layers. If that is the case, the substance must be able to pass through a thick layer of cortex without injuring it, and then begin to exert its poisonous effect on an extremely thin layer within. That seems improbable.

Of course it is possible to have canker and nodule formation on the same tree. But on the other hand, I have examined hundreds of cases of nodules, including both types, in which the tree bore no sign of canker, past or present. Nodules may occur after canker when the wound is healing, just as they may occur at the margin of any wound. But that there is any genetic connection between nodules and canker seems to me to be quite unproved, and from Ceylon experience, extremely doubtful. It seems to me more probable that the Javan account deals with a case of canker and the initial stage of nodule formation on the same tree.

THE DISCUSSION.

At the conclusion of the paper the Chairman remarked that so long as the Island had men like Mr. Petch devoting their attention to experimental work the planting community had very little to fear from rubber diseases. He then asked if any members had questions they wished to ask.

Mr. WILLIAMSON asked whether the lecturer would tell them the reason why canker, as a rule, only occurred in the lower three feet of the bark.

Mr. PETCH said the only reason he could give was the greater humidity nearer the ground.

Mr. WILLIAMSON: In that case thinning out is important?

Mr. PETCH said he had not alluded to thinning out as he had regarded that as something sufficiently well realised. Nothing tended to make plantations drier or better from the disease point of view.

In response to a query as to the value of corrosives in cases of canker Mr. Petch said that in the case of the cocoa canker experiments had been tried on some estates to burn up the diseased bark. These experiments had proved a failure all the way through.

The Bordeaux mixture to which he had made reference in his paper did not burn out the fungus but merely prevented its attack.

"Does the speaker advocate the use of Permanganate of Potash?" another member asked.

"Permanganate of Potash is one of the most deceptive disinfectants of which I have knowledge," Mr. Petch replied. A few crystals will colour a bucket of water, and the user imagines that that is a disinfecting solution, but it is practically worthless unless a concentrated solution is used.

Mr. BAINES asked if the application of copper sulphate alone was sufficient for the disease.

Mr. PETCH replied that copper sulphate alone might do for three days, but after that the tree would be as unprotected as before. Copper sulphate would be washed off by rain. On the other hand Bordeaux mixture was insoluble and stuck to the trees like whitewash. As it got wet it gave back copper sulphate which killed the fungus. He had known Bordeaux mixture to stop on cocoa leaves one year. As for rubber trees it might require two sprayings certainly not more—per annum.

Questioned as to the proportions in which ingredients should be mixed, Mr. Petch said the usual proportions were 5 lbs. of copper sulphate, 5 lbs. of lime, and 50 gallons of water. An important point was that all such mixtures must be prepared in copper or wooden vessels or else all the copper was lost. He knew one man who tried to prepare the mixture in an iron kettle with a result that all the copper clung to the side of the vessel leaving not copper but iron sulphate. (Laughter.)

In response to Mr. Cameron, Mr. Petch said they ought not to be surprised that some rot was taking place in the Island, they ought rather to be surprised that it did not take place all over Ceylon. As soon as the dry weather came the rot stopped.

On many estates where they started new cuts in October they were bound to get it, but if they started new cuts any other time of the year it did not occur.

IS ROT A DISEASE?

A member further asked whether rot was a disease, and Mr. Petch replied that he would be quite prepared to adopt such a theory when some evidence which might point to this conclusion was forthcoming. There was no such evidence at present.

Another member expressed it as his opinion that it was the weak trees which were usually affected.

WIND AND RAIN.

Mr. CANTLAY, on the other hand, said he knew of a district where trees planted in divisions at a fairly high altitude were almost bound to get rot, while rot was unknown in divisions at a lower elevation. Yet there would not be a quarter of an hour's walk between the two divisions.

Mr. BAINES expressed the opinion that this was possibly largely due to the strong winds experienced at the higher elevations. Rot, so far as his experience went, never started until the wind rose, and was most prevalent when strong winds and heavy rains combined.

THE MATALE DISTRICT.

Mr. CAMERON: If this disease is caused by rain why is it that a dry district like Matale should be the worst sufferer from rot in the whole of Ceylon?

Mr. PETCH: I was up in Matale last week and they have none at the present time. During the last two or three months they have been tapping clean. The rot which was so prevalent during the last N. E. Monsoon has all disappeared.

Mr. PETCH: One of the few definite conclusions at which we have arrived in connection with rot is that it occurs during the wettest weather and that it stops as soon as the dry weather starts again.

A VOTE OF THANKS.

On the motion of the Chairman the lecturer was heartily thanked for his address, and, responding to the vote of thanks, said the Mycological staff at Peradeniya was to be increased, and he hoped that soon there would be nothing they would not be able to tell the planters about rubber tree disease.

COAST AGENCY.

COMMISSIONER'S NOTES.

RECRUITING FIGURES:—Approximately 51,500 coolies have been despatched from all Agencies for the first six months of the year shewing an increase as compared with the same period of last year of 9,000 coolies. For the month of June 15,000 coolies were despatched as against 12,500 during June, 1912. The usual Comparative Statement is attached. In the Headquarters Circle all Agencies shew a fair increase for the month. The position of Pudukottah has improved and coolies are coming in from there fairly well. Double the number of coolies have come in from Musiri during June as compared with last year, whereas Turaiyur, which is in the vicinity, shews very little advance.

CHITTOOR CIRCLE:—Chingleput shows a decrease; Arkonam and Villupuram an appreciable advance. Cuddapah total has been enhanced by a large gang of Telugu coolies being recruited for a Ceylon estate through the medium of the local Missionaries and more will doubtless follow. Nellore is disappointing, but Guntur has done very much better. Prospects for recruiting for these Telugu Agencies are exceedingly good, but the country is not being sufficiently exploited by Ceylon recruiters.

MADURA CIRCLE:—The conditions in Madura itself have improved and we have now passed last year's total. Tataparai is doing exceedingly well. Tinnevely shows a substantial increase. The Sea Coast Agencies, Ammapattanam, Tondi and Panhan, are about the same as last year.

SALEM CIRCLE:—Results from Salem are disappointing, but Tirupatur, Namakal, Dharmapuri and Atur which are all new Agencies are doing increasingly well. Guntakal has recruited 452 coolies as against 91 last year, but the closing of the Hubli Agency will account for this increase to some extent. Bangalore shows a decrease. Results from Mysore Agencies continue to be disappointing. Nanjangud, the new Agency, is doing fairly well, considering that it was only opened in March last. The utility of the Bangalore Agency is open to question owing to the attitude of the Mysore State Officials, and I think the question of removing this Agency elsewhere may well be considered.

PALGHAT CIRCLE:—Erode and Dindigul show further increase, but Karur results are poor. Cannanore, the new Malabar Agency, is gradually improving.

CORRESPONDENCE:—For the information of Superintendents I would point out that letters take at least three days to reach Trichinopoly, and, allowing one day for attention from this office, seven days must elapse before a reply can be expected. If a full reply cannot be sent per return post formal acknowledgment is made in any case. Where a Sunday or Government Holiday intervenes another day must be added and, in cases where reference has to be made to other Agencies, additional delay is incurred. I may mention that it takes in some cases three days post to reach Out Agencies and where information has to be obtained by the Agent and sent to Head Office more delay is incurred before the Head Office can frame any reply. All correspondence is, as far as possible, attended to promptly and a reply sent wherever possible on the day of receipt. I trust this information will remove any misunderstanding that may exist in some quarters as to the time it takes to deal with correspondence received at this office.

CANARESE CERTIFICATES:—Recruiting in Mysore continues to be very disappointing, and there is no doubt that the Policy of this Government is to obstruct emigration as far as possible. It is now necessary that the signed conditions of employment on estates be printed in Canarese as well as in English and signed by the Superintendent. In addition to this a copy of this notice must be in the hands of every cooly when presented before the City Magistrate for examination prior to registration. Superintendents should make sure that all their kanganyes have an ample supply of these notices properly filled in and signed by themselves.

REGISTRATION OF BOGUS COOLIES:—I am glad to report that I have just succeeded in securing the conviction of a kangany from an Up-country estate who, some time ago, succeeded in passing through the Salem Agency a gang of loafers with the object of swindling his Superintendent, having educated the coolies prior to presenting them before the Agent for registration. The gang consisted mainly of town loafers, Municipal Sweepers and undesirables. Having successfully imposed upon the Agent and obtained payment of the A. Form rate of Rs. 15 per head the kangany arrived at my Trichinopoly Depot, minus the coolies and gave a written statement that owing to inter-

ference by the Police at Erode Junction the coolies had all bolted. A warrant for the arrest of this kangany was obtained, and he was subsequently extradited from Ceylon on a charge of cheating and preferring a false charge against the Erode Police. The kangany has been convicted and sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment. This case was taken by me as a test, and in future it will be opened to Superintendents to instruct me to prosecute in similar cases, provided the evidence obtainable is sufficient and reliable to warrant proceedings. There is no doubt that one or two convictions will go a long way to stop what has become a serious evil on this side, not to speak of the loss involved to estates. Notices detailing this conviction will be posted at all Agencies and supplied to Superintendents for advertisement on their estates, and it is to be hoped that it will put a stop to further fraud of this nature.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER'S CAMPING.

COIMBATORE.

I left Trichinopoly on the 15th June for Erode, where I met the Assistant Commissioner of the Palghat Circle who, I had arranged, should accompany me during my tour in the Coimbatore District in order that I might be initiated into the mysteries of camping work in the recruiting districts, and I was glad to have the benefit of his many years of experience in this respect.

On the 16th I inspected the Erode Agency. I was not at all satisfied with conditions prevailing. The Acting Agent, I found more or less incompetent, and he will be replaced next month by a permanent man who is at present at Headquarters receiving instruction and education. The Erode Agency has earned in the past a most unenviable reputation for the registration of bogus coolies, and, although there is no direct evidence which can establish the late Agent's culpability, he has been removed after a considerable length of service to Headquarters and his re-employment as an Agent is exceedingly doubtful. The Agency is situated within a few minutes of the Railway and away from the adverse influences of the bazaars. The premises were exceedingly clean and there is a large walled-in compound with outhouses for the accommodation of coolies. I took the opportunity of inspecting the food supplied by the local caterer at the rate of 2½ annas per meal. I consider the charge was high, and inconsistent with the quality supplied, but the kanganyes and coolies expressed themselves as perfectly satisfied. I found a large number of kanganyes hanging round this Agency making no effort to recruit, and apparently awaiting the advent of the professional recruiter; some of them reeked of drink, and the type of kangany I saw at Erode with a few exceptions did not impress me favourably, nor do I consider that they are likely to recruit satisfactory labour for the estates which they represent. There were doubtless many good kanganyes who were in their villages endeavouring to bring in coolies. These, of course, I did not see. Reports as to the kanganyes found at Erode doing nothing have been sent to Superintendents interested. I have instructed the Agent that these undesirable

kanganies should not be allowed to frequent the Agency compound, but that they be instructed to go immediately to their villages to recruit labour or return to Ceylon. I am not satisfied that Erode is the best centre for Coimbatore recruiting, but, under a better class of Agent, I hope conditions will improve. At Erode there are Retiring Rooms at the Railway Station, but sleep is very difficult owing to the noise. It is preferable to stay at the Dak Bungalow which is comfortable, fairly furnished, and situated well away from the bazaars.

On the 17th we motored from Erode to Perundurai over an excellent road. Our first stop was at a small village called Chatram, but I am bound to say that our reception here was distinctly frosty. There were only one or two men in this village and they seemed rather frightened of us and refused to take the notices or have anything to do with us. The distance from Erode to Perundurai is 11 miles. In the afternoon we motored out 10 miles and back to Perundurai stopping at Nasianoor, six miles from Perundurai. Here the Motor Car was very soon surrounded by an interested crowd, amongst whom was a man who was recruiting for a large estate in the Low-Country. He said that the people were afraid of going to Ceylon, as they thought that they would never come back to their village again. I took the opportunity of disabusing their minds in this respect. I distributed a large number of notices to the people who appeared particularly keen to hear about Ceylon, and those who could read absorbed the notices with interest reading aloud to their brethren who were not similarly endowed with the blessings of education. Mr. Dupen, while taking a photograph, was asked by one of the villagers if the light was good enough and was surprised to find such a sign of civilisation in this out-of-the-way village. I think this place would be a good recruiting ground. We went on to a large village called Sitthodu. A large crowd gathered here also and we distributed a lot of notices. The Village School Master gave us a good deal of information saying that few people have gone to Ceylon from this village and they appeared to know very little of the advantages attending emigration there. Prospects for recruiting were good here also. There were no Ceylon kanganies in this place.

On the 18th we remained at Perundurai. In the morning motored 17 miles up the Avanasbi Road and back, stopping at Vizamangalam and distributed notices explaining the advantages of Ceylon to the inhabitants. We were delayed a little further on by a puncture to one of the front tyres which, however, was repaired in about a quarter of an hour and then carried on to the next village, previously to having distributed notices to the crowd who soon collected to see the puncture repaired, and also at the Chengapalli Toll Gate. We stopped at a village called Perumanallur, distributed notices, and discussed the advantages of emigration to Ceylon with the villagers. On our return to Perundurai I interviewed the Manegar or Headman. He stated the wages here are four annas per man and 1½ annas per woman, but the wages are mostly paid in kind. The crops are fair and the price of rice eight Madras measures to the Rupee. We were unable to find any kanganies in this place. The Manegar said that coolies are not available, a large number having already gone to Ceylon, but I think this statement was not altogether in accordance with facts, and that labour can be recruited from Perundurai. A large number of notices

were distributed in the town by my Peons, and I hope will have the desired effect. There is an exceedingly comfortable Dak Bungalow at Perundurai, situated on rising ground overlooking the town and very cool.

On the 19th June we left Perundurai at 7 a.m., motoring back to Erode to get some important letters, and I took the opportunity of paying a surprise visit to the Agency, and was thereby enabled to gain a closer insight as to how some of these Agents really look after their work. In our way back from Perundurai we stopped at Ingur. The School Master here told us that there was plenty of work for people in this place. The wages, however, are very low, being 2½ annas for men and 1 anna 4 pies for women. At Pidayoor, a village further on the inhabitants, looked very poor and are chiefly Christians. One Robert Michael, who was the spokesman of the crowd, informed me that coolies could be persuaded to go to Ceylon; and that a husband and wife in the village had been to Malacca and brought back with them Rs. 100, and were looked upon as the local millionaires. The people asked a great many questions about Ceylon and appeared to know very little about it, and I feel sure that some of them would go over if a reliable person visited the village.

Our next stop was at Chenamallai, a large village with about 3,000 inhabitants. There are two Cotton Mills in this place. Wages: annas four per man and annas two per woman. Coolies have gone to Ceylon from this place and labour is available; one man told us that his brother had lately gone there. One Panali Swamy informed me that he could send over labour if required.

We reached Kangayam about midday. In the evening we ran out by motor from Kangayam and back 31 miles, stopping in a village called Vallakoil, 11 miles from Kangayam and again at Uttamapalayam, 4½ miles further on. The inhabitants of the latter village said that a good many of the villagers had gone to Ceylon and more seemed ready to go there if there was anybody to take them.

On the 20th June from Kangayam we motored to Palladam and back, a distance of 40 miles, the last eight miles of the road being very bad. Stopping at Avanasbipalayam we could not get much information out of the villagers. The wages for men two annas only. Nobody had been to Ceylon and, as far as I can see, no one appeared to be keen owing, I think, to the fact that they knew little or nothing about the advantages as compared with their own surroundings. We distributed notices here. At Pungaloor, the next village, the people were more enthusiastic and I am sure coolies could be got at this place; also at Matapoor, a village near Palladam, the inhabitants were very keen. Several of them said they would much like to go to Ceylon. There were no kanganies here neither were we able to find any in any of the villages at which we halted, though diligent enquiries were made. In Palladam we halted for some time. This is a town with about 6,000 inhabitants. The people were very keen about getting notices, and a large number of them were distributed. Owing to that day being the Viceroy's birthday there were a large number of people about which was very advantageous for purposes of advertisement. We stopped at a small village called Ammanapalayam and distributed notices. In the afternoon on our return to Kangayam I interviewed the Manegar. He said that a few coolies had gone to Ceylon from there. Crops had

not been very good. Wages: annas three to four for men and $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 annas to women. We were invited by the Monegar to attend the School and see the children fed and entertained in honour of the Viceroy's birthday, and I took the opportunity of becoming acquainted with some of the local magnates there. I must say they were very hospitable and did not appear to resent our presence there in any way. One Devanadan, a local Mission Catechist, said that coolies were available at Kangayam and that if a few could be taken over to Ceylon and find their surroundings congenial many more could be persuaded to go to Ceylon subsequently. At Kangayam there is a large Dak Bungalow, but it is a very gloomy place and not overclean, however it is the only available camping residence in the place.

21st June. From Kangayam we motored to Tiruppur, a distance of 19 miles stopping at Pudiur. Several people here said they would like to go to Ceylon, but none in the village had been there before. A good recruiter, I think, could get labour at this place. We stopped also at Nachoor and Nallur. At the former place one Chenamali Kounden said that he could send at least 30 coolies.

22nd June. Owing to my presence at Headquarters being required I had to somewhat curtail my camping, and from Tiruppur we motored back to Erode, a distance of 43 miles. Having been over most of this road before we only stopped at one or two of the villages which we had not exploited on our outward journey. We stopped at Annapalalayam, the chief industry of which village is brass work which we inspected under the guidance of the local Post Master. A few coolies could be procured from this place. The next village Anapalayam is a very small one, the industry being weaving. We stopped at Kuttain Toll Gate and distributed notices. I again inspected the Erode Agency on our arrival.

23rd June. Having sent the motor back by train to Trichinopoly I left for Palghat, and on the following day inspected the Agency. I was glad to find the books in excellent order. The premises which were exceedingly clean and well kept are well situated away from the main road and capable of accommodating comfortably a good number of coolies. The Agent is a very respectable and intelligent man and exceedingly anxious that Ceylon should patronise Malayalam labour to a larger extent than is done at present. Tiyans, Cherumars, and Saivars are being sent over and, to a lesser degree, Moplahs. One estate near Gampola appears to be building up a connection with the latter, who are Mohammedans, and I was glad to see some of those in the Agency who had returned to take over their relatives. On questioning them they expressed themselves as being quite satisfied with their pay and prospects in Ceylon. To the end of May 391 coolies had been sent through from this Agency, which is nearly 100 in excess of last year, but figures for the month of June show a serious falling off which is disappointing. Care is taken here to see that none but Tiyans and Cherumars are sent over to Ceylon, and if Superintendents will insist upon this I do not anticipate that they will have any reason to be dissatisfied with Malayalam labour. The great drawback appears to be that the women cannot be induced to emigrate in appreciable numbers, but I am informed that this prejudice is gradually breaking down and once this is effected larger numbers can, I am sure, be recruited. The climate of Malabar is similar in every

respect to that of the Ceylon Low-Country, but the higher rates offered by Rubber estates as compared with those obtainable in their own villages should encourage emigration. The Malayalam cooly is entirely different to the Tamil, of much finer physique, far cleaner and more attractive in every way. The women are also far more prepossessing.

I returned to Trichinopoly on the 25th having covered a total distance of 245 miles by Motor Car and 370 miles by train—Total mileage 615.

The impressions that I have gained by my trip through the Coimbatore District is that labour of a good type is generally obtainable from the villages through which I passed, but it will require patience and energy on the part of European recruiters, who would have to settle down at some convenient centre like Kangayam for perhaps an extended period, if the villagers are to be persuaded to emigrate to Ceylon in appreciable numbers. The dearth of kanganyies in the villages through which I passed was very noticeable. At many villages Ceylon appears to be quite unknown and at others there was not that enthusiasm for "Lanka" or "Kandy," as they call it, as there was for Malacca and Cochin. Large numbers of coolies are drawn annually from Coimbatore for this latter State, but the Maistries who control the labour and supply Cochin estates are gradually getting to know of the improved conditions of Ceylon Low-Country Rubber estates, and I think there is every reason to hope that the numbers going to Ceylon from this district will annually increase. I do not think that the value of my trip for advertisement purposes can be overestimated, and if my work in this respect is energetically followed up, either by kanganyies or European Recruiters, results should be satisfactory. Contrary to expectations, I did not find that any of the local officials I came in contact with were at all hostile to recruiting for Ceylon, but their argument, as a rule, was that there was no necessity to emigrate. They admitted that the cost of living was steadily rising, but that the rates of payment by landowners remain practically stationary and that the prehistoric system of payment in kind, that is grain and not in cash is still in vogue. Remuneration for all work connected with these land owners' estates and their household is all paid for in this manner, and I do not think the ryot knows what it is to handle cash. This being the case it is not unreasonable to suppose that there should be a very fair field for recruiting. I was very much struck with the extraordinary number of coolies that thronged round the Motor Car who appeared to have nothing to do. The majority of them were palpably extremely poor, unkempt and ill clad, and I think they were impressed with the pictures they saw on the Commission notices of their more fortunate brethren working on Ceylon estates. Numbers of them I have met with were quite ready to go to Ceylon if a "Dorai" would take them there, their faith in the European being in strong contrast to their aversion to the native recruiter or kangany. It is only when you get into the interior and away from centres such as Erode, which is nothing but a hot bed of professional recruiting, that it can be sufficiently realised what a vast field for recruiting there is in parts of South India if properly undertaken both by the old kangany system, or in places such as some of the villages I visited which apparently are not in the grip of this system, by European recruiting. Direct recruiting, I think, could be

successfully undertaken through the influence of local Missionaries and Catechists, as they are well aware as to the extent of the poverty and distress that does exist, and having the confidence of the villagers are able to educate them and advise them as to the advantages attending emigration to Ceylon as compared with their immediate surroundings. In many of the villages I was asked by coolies whether the cost of their journey would have to be defrayed by them or the estates to which they are going, and in not a few instances the coolies asked whether there would be any obstacle placed in the way of their returning to their homes after say a year's work in Ceylon. With regard to the first question I assured them that most estates pay these expenses and that after a year's work it was possible to return to their villages for a visit which would be specially encouraged if the object was to further recruit amongst their relations or their village connections. Labour for Cochin is apparently recruited on that condition and if some arrangement could be come to in Ceylon to facilitate this system it appears to me that coolies from this part of Coimbatore would go over freely. Coolies that have already been recruited for Ceylon Low-Country

Rubber estates are sending over good accounts of their pay and prospects which, after all, is the best advertisement that we can look for.

The Commission Car gave me not a moment's anxiety and entirely satisfied me that the "ALLDAY" Car is one of the most suitable makes for touring work. The method of making Headquarters at some busy centre and making daily visits to the surrounding villages is the best that can be adopted, camp equipment being forwarded by night ahead of the motor. This system is also adopted by my Assistants who are provided with Motor Bicycles and enables them to cover a very much larger area of the country than would be the case if camping work was done by bullock bandies. I am not sure that the supply of tents would not also be advantageous as it would enable them to camp in many villages where Dak Bungalows do not exist. The Motor Car was a source of much interest to the villagers as very few pass along these roads. It was in itself an auxiliary to advertisement.

H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JUNE, 1913.

District.	Taluq.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men. Annas.	Women. Annas.		
Telugu Districts.						
Cuddapah	Cuddapah	... No rain and no crops.	4	2	Moderate	As usual the people in Cuddapah are expecting rain and are not getting it. A good deal of harm has previously been done in this district by Tamil kanganyies, but Telugus should certainly be sent and an attempt made to regain the confidence of the people.
	Pulivendla	... do	3	do	Good	
	Kamalapuram	... do	do	do	do	
	Roychoty	... do	do	do	do	
	Rajampet	... do	4	do	do	
	Sidhout	... do	3	do	do	
	Badvel	... do	do	do	do	
	Proddatur	... do	8	3	Bad	
Nellore	Jammalamadugu	do	3	2	Good	
	Nellore	... Paddy harvest- ing good.	do	do	do	I do not think the prospects here are very good just at present.
	Venkatagiri	... do Ragi harvest- ing good.	2	1½	Bad	
	Kovoor	... Paddy harvest- ing good.	do	do	Fair	
	Kavali	... do Ragi, cholam good.	do	do	Bad	
	Atmakur	... do	do	do	do	
	Udagiri	... do	do	do	do	
	Kundukur	... Paddy harvest- ing good and ragi fair.	do	do	do	
	Rapoor	... Paddy harvest- ing good, cho- lam and ragi poor.	3	do	d	

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JUNE, 1913.

District.	Taluq.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Telugu Districts.						
Nellore	Kanagiri	... Paddy harvesting good, cholam and ragi poor.	2½	1½	Bad	
	Podili	... Ragi, cumbu and cholam good.	2	1	do	
	Dharsi	... do	do	do	do	
	Gudur	... Paddy, ragi, and cholam good.	do	1	do	
Guntur	Guntur	... Cumbu and ragi being sown.	4	3	Good	Some of the crops in Guntur have not been very successful. The prospects here are as bright as ever if only planters would take advantage of them.
	Satnapally	... do	do	do	do	
	Venukonda	... do	do	do	do	
	Repalli	... do	do	do	do	
	Tenali	... Paddy crop bad.	do	do	do	
	Bapatla	... do	do	do	do	
Anantapur	Anantapur	... Paddy harvesting excellent.	5	3	Moderate	
	Dharmavaram	... do	4	2	do	
	Gooty	... Cotton harvesting excellent.	5	2½	do	
Kurnool	Bellary	... do	4	2	do	I know less about this district, but I should think Sholapur and Kurnool are excellent recruiting grounds at all times, though Guntakal itself is a large manufacturing place.
	Adoni	... Paddy and cumbu excellent.	4	2½	do	
	Rayadrug	... do	4	2	do	
Kurnal	Nandial	... Cumbu and cholam moderate.	3½	2	do	
	Thadpatry	... do	3	1½	do	
Sholapur	Sholapur	... Paddy harvesting bad.	4	2	Moderate	
	Madlimb	... Cholam moderate.	do	1½	do	

(Signed) J. H. RUTHERFORD LEE,

Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JUNE, 1913.

District.	Talug.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Tinnevally Agency.						
Tinnevally and Travancore	Nanguneri ...	Good in Tenkasi, Fair in other Taluks.	3 to 4	2 to 3	Fair	
	Sankarankoil ...					
	Tenkasi ...					
	Ambasamudram ...					
	Tinnevally ...					
	Srivaikuntam ...					
	Trichendoor ...					
	Koilputty ...					
					(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,	Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner, 25th June, 1913.
Tataparai Agency.						
Tinnevally	... Koilputty	Fair	4 to 7	3 to 4	Very Good	
					(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,	Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner, 29th June, 1913.
Erode Agency.						
Coimbatore ...	Erode ...	Crops are fair.	3 to 4	2 to 3	Recruiting prospects are good.	
	Bhavani ...					
	Gobichetty- liem ...					
	Satyamangalam ...					
	Palladam ...					
	Avanashi ...					
	Dharapuram ...					
	Kollegal ...					
	Udamalpet ...					
	Pollachi ...					
					(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,	Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner, 29th June, 1913.
Karur Agency.						
Trichinopoly and Coimbatore	{ Karur and Dharapuram ... }	Good	4	0-2-6	Not very good, coolies are engaged in field work.	Coolies available in small numbers in the Karur and Dharapuram Taluks.
					(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,	Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner, 28th June, 1913.
Dindigul Agency.						
Madura	{ Dindigul ... Palani ... Dharapuram ... }	Good	0-4-6 to 5-0-2-6	to 3	Good	Labour available in most of the villages in the Palani and Dindigul Taluks.
					(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,	Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner, 28th June, 1913.
Palghat and Cannanore Agency.						
Malabar	Palghat ...	Paddy has only just begun to grow, if the monsoon is a good one the crops will be good.	3½ to 4½	0-2-6	Very good	This is the best time of the year for recruiting in Malabar, coolies being available in most of the Taluks.
	Walawanad ...					
	Ponani ...					
	Calicut ...					
	Chirakal ...					
	Kottayam ...					
	Ernad ...					
	Kurumbranad ...					
					(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,	Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner, 27th June, 1913.

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JUNE, 1913.

District.	Taluq.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.	
			Men	Women			
			Annas.	Annas.			
Chittoor Circle.							
Chittoor	Chittoor	... Paddy & Ragi growing poorly	3 to 4	2 to 3	Fair	Some rain was expected during this month. It has, as usual, not been very satisfactory. I should think that the poorness of the growing crops means an opportunity of securing labour as many families will have little hope in the harvest.	
	Kalastri	... Paddy growing poorly	do	do	do		
	Karvetnagar	... Paddy & Ragi growing poorly	do	do	Indifferent		
	Palmanari	... do	do	do	do		
	Vayalpad	... Young Paddy indifferent	do	do	Fair		
	Madanapalli	... do	do	do	Bad		
	Punganur	... Young Paddy, Ragi & Cumbu indifferent	do	do	Indifferent		
	Chendragiri	... do	do	do	do		
Tamil District.							
North Arcot...	Arcot	... Paddy still young, Ragi young, good	4	2	Moderate	In North Arcot the young crops are doing very well and the harvests are excellent. This may have a slight deterrent effect, but need not discourage sending recruiters to this excellent district.	
	Vellore	... Cholan crop harvesting excellent. Ragi still young	do	do	Good		
	Gudiyatam	... do	do	do	do		
	Walajah	... Ragi crop still young	do	do	do		
	Polur	... Paddy still young, good. Ragi still young, good. Tobacco harvesting good	do	do	Moderate		
	Arni	... Ragi still young, good	do	do	Poor		
	Wandiwash	... Ragi growing poorly	do	do	Indifferent		
	Tiruvanamalai	... Paddy good Cholan and Cumbu fair	do	do	Fair		
	Arkonam	... Ragi to be transplanted & Cholan very poor	4 to 5	2 to 3	Good		
	Cheyar	... Paddy, Ragi & Cholan fair	do	do	Fair		
	Chingleput	... Young Paddy good	5	3	do		Here also prospects are not so bright as they have been, but are still good.
	Saidapet	... Ragi sown	6	3½	do		
	Ponnari	... Cumbu growing good	4	2½	do		
	Madurantakam	... Paddy harvested	5	3	do		
Conjeeveram	... Paddy harvested and Ragi sown	5	3	do			
	Tiruvalur	... Paddy harvested	4	2½	do		

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JUNE, 1913.

District.	Taluk.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men.	Women.		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Chittoor Circle.						
South Arcot...	Villupuram	... Young Cumbu good. Young Ragi not satisfactory and Ground-nut excellent	5	3	Very good	I should think that in South Arcot the immediate prospects are still as good as ever.
	Tindivanam	... Cumbu bad, young Ragi bad, Paddy 2nd crop and Ground-nut poor	3	2	do	
	Gingee	... do	do	do	Good	
	Cuddalore	... Cumbu good, young Ragi fair, Paddy fair and Ground-nut fair	do	do	do	
	Chidambaram	... Paddy harvesting good	do	do	do	
	Virudachalam	... Cumbu good, Ragi good, Paddy fair, Ground-nut fair	do	do	do	
	Tirukoilur	... Cholam good and Paddy excellent	do	do	do	
	Kallakurchi	... Ragi good, Cumbu bad, Paddy 2nd crop bad	do	do	Very good	
Trichinopoly Circle.						
Trichy Dt. ... (Musiri Agency)	{ Musiri ... Kulitalai ... }	Fair	4	2	Good	
Turaiyur Agency...	{ Musiri ... Perambalore ... }	Fair	4	2½	Good	
Manaparai Agency ...	{ Kulitalai ... }	Fair	4	3	Good	
Tanjore Dt. ... (Tanjore Agency)	{ Kumbakonam ... Mannargudi ... Mayaveram ... Nannilam ... Negapatam ... Papanasam ... Shiyali ... Tanjore ... Tiruturaipoondi ... }	Sowing of paddy in progress.	4	3½	Fair	

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JUNE, 1913.

District.	Taluq.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men	Women		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Trichinopoly Circle.						
Ammapatnam Agency ...	{ Arantangi ... Pattukottai ... }	Fair	4	3½	Good	
Puducottah State ...	{ Tirumayam ... Alangudi ... }	Nil	6	3½	Fair	The rise in the wages is due to the progress of the State Public Works, viz., road laying and irrigation.
Puducottah Agency	{ Kolatur ... }	Nil	5	3	Very good	
		Nil	5	3	Good	
Madura Dt. . .	{ Paramagudi ... Abyram ... }	Good	5	3	Good	
Pamben Agency	{ Tiruvadanally ... Muthukolatur ... }	Fair	5	3	Fair	
		do	5	3	do	
		Good	6	3	Very good	
Tondi Agency ...	{ Tiruvadanie ... Tirupathur ... Sivaganga ... Paramagudi ... }	Not good	4 to 6	3 to 4	Very good	

(Signed) H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Salem Circle.

Salem District ...	Salem	... Poor for want of rain	5	2½	Not good	Recruiting prospects are bad owing to magnesite works. Canarese labour available here.
(Salem Agency)	Trichengode	... Very poor	4	2	do	
	Hosur	... Poor	4	2	Fair	
	Utangarai	... Poor	4	2	Fair	Coolies are available. So a large number of kanganies should work here.
	Omalur	... Poor	4	2	Not good	The magnesite work in the vicinity of this taluk attract all labour.
(Atur Agency)...	Atur	... Fair	5	2½	Fair	Coolies are available. Kanganies having family connection should be sent to work here.
(Namakal Agency)	Namakal	... Bad	2 to 3	1 to 2	Fair	
(Dharmapuri Agency)	Dharmapuri	... Fair	6	3	Fair	
Tirupatur Agency	Tirupatur	... Fair	4	2½	Fair	
Mysore Province (Nanjangode Agency)	Nanjangud	... Fair	5	2½	Fair	

MONTHLY REPORT ON RECRUITING PROSPECTS FOR JUNE, 1913.

District.	Taluq.	Crop Prospects.	Local Wages.		Recruiting Prospects.	Remarks.
			Men	Women		
			Annas.	Annas.		
Salem Circle.						
Bangalore Agency ...	Bangalore ...	Good	4	2	do	All recruited coolies must hold signed recruiting certificates from Superintendents in English and Canarese or Mysore Government will reject them.
	Magadi ...	do	3	1½	Good	
	Closepet ...	do	3	1½	do	
	Konegal ...	do	2½	1½	do	
	Nalamangalam...	Bad	2½	1½	do	
	Thodu Belapuru	Bad	2½	1½	do	
	Hosukottai ...	Good	2½	1½	do	
Araikal ...	do	3	1½	do		

(Signed) H. SCOBLE NICHOLSON,
Ceylon Labour Commissioner.

Madura Circle, Madura Agency.

Madura ...	Madura ...	Crops are fair.	4 to 5	2 to 3	Are good in the N. Madura Dt., - Fair in the South
	Maloor ...				
	Periakulam ...				
	Nelakottai ...				
	Thirumangalam				
	Palani ...				
	Dindigul ...				
	Ramnad ...				
	Sivaganga ...				
	Mana Madura ...				
	Thirupuvanam...				
	Thirupattur ...				
	Kamuthy ...				
	Paramakudi ...				

(Signed) G. S. DUPEN,
Asst. Ceylon Labour Commissioner,
9th June, 1913.

CEYLON LABOUR COMMISSION, TRICHINOPOLY.

Comparative Statement showing the number of Coolies despatched monthly from each Agency during 1912 and 1913.

Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	March.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.
Headquarter Circle.												
Trichinopoly	1912	740	1,036	1,776	1,556	3,332	3,276	6,608	6,057	12,665	6,088	18,753
"	1913	994	1,201	2,195	1,453	3,648	4,081	7,729	7,639	15,368	7,193	22,561
Tanjore.	1912	42	94	136	165	301	231	532	347	879	323	1,202
"	1913	109	146	255	149	404	192	596	347	943	447	1,390
Turaiyur	1912	5	32	37	6	43	28	71	137	208	215	423
"	1913	5	27	32	49	81	79	160	159	319	233	552
Musiri	1912	3	15	18	29	47	39	86	142	228	109	337
"	1913	20	4	24	8	32	132	164	202	366	206	572
Puducotah	1912	89	108	197	121	318	166	484	214	698	348	1,046
"	1913	56	111	167	65	232	228	460	308	768	437	1,205
Manaparai	1912	111	103	214	135	349	129	478	344	822	297	1,119
"	1913	224	141	365	171	536	308	844	425	1,269	446	1,715
Total..	1912	990	1,388	2,378	2,012	4,390	3,869	8,259	7,241	15,500	7,380	22,880
"	1913	1,408	1,630	3,038	1,895	4,933	5,020	9,953	9,080	19,033	8,962	27,995

THE PLANTING GAZETTE.

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Agencies.	Years.	Jan	Feb.	Total.	March.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.
Chittoor Circle.												
Chingleput	... 1912	120	105	225	136	361	305	666	287	9-3	562	1,515
"	... 1913	99	132	231	223	454	424	878	440	1,318	492	1,810
Arkonam	... 1912	201	67	268	56	324	154	478	272	750	264	1,014
"	... 1913	87	112	199	78	277	164	441	240	681	342	1,023
Villupuram	... 1912	118	156	274	266	540	325	865	412	1,277	501	1,778
"	... 1913	166	177	343	328	671	388	1,059	682	1,741	654	2,395
Katpady	... 1912	216	257	473	140	613	177	790	292	1,082	415	1,497
"	... 1913	252	231	483	150	633	245	878	385	1,263	342	1,605
Coconada	... 1912	...	19	19	10	29	29	58	11	69	49	118
"	... 1913	6	15	21	37	58	closed	58	closed	58	closed	58
Cuddapah	... 1912	4	11	15	22	37	2	39	34	73	22	95
"	... 1913	15	2	17	13	30	20	50	23	73	171	244
Nellore	... 1912	9	...	9	18	27	2	29	...	29	29	58
"	... 1913	17	25	42	52	94	9	103	17	120	6	126
Guntur	... 1912	...	63	63	8	71	153	226	43	269	27	296
"	... 1913	...	...	...	...	...	22	22	5	27	111	138
Chittoor	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	2	2	13	15	14	29	22	51
Anantapur	... 1912	89	24	113	13	126	...	126	...	126	...	126
"	... 1913	closed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total...	1912	757	702	1,459	669	2,128	1,149	3,277	1,351	4,628	1,869	6,497
"	1913	642	694	1,336	883	2,219	1,285	3,501	1,806	5,310	2,140	7,450
Madura Circle.												
Tataparai	... 1912	256	191	447	312	759	265	1,024	522	1,546	607	2,153
"	... 1913	267	352	619	433	1,052	761	1,813	741	2,554	801	3,355
Madura	... 1912	275	255	530	293	823	355	1,178	603	1,781	863	2,644
"	... 1913	220	162	382	149	531	421	952	787	1,739	766	2,505
Tinnevely	... 1912	94	122	216	136	352	171	526	247	773	291	1,064
"	... 1913	121	88	209	147	356	238	594	364	958	399	1,357
Ammapatam	... 1912	8	54	62	60	122	119	241	142	383	240	623
"	... 1913	43	43	86	19	135	130	265	179	444	174	618
Tondi	... 1912	109	177	286	131	420	329	749	321	1,070	860	1,430
"	... 1913	111	109	220	129	349	215	564	406	970	439	1,409
Pamban	... 1912	8	14	22	89	111	20	131	70	201	93	294
"	... 1913	11	17	28	75	103	43	116	78	224	68	292
Total...	1912	750	813	1,563	1,024	2,587	1,262	3,819	1,905	5,754	2,154	7,908
"	1913	773	771	1,544	982	2,526	1,808	4,334	2,555	6,889	2,647	9,586
Salem Circle.												
Salem	... 1912	126	132	258	157	415	362	777	326	1,103	313	1,416
"	... 1913	63	124	187	210	397	226	623	217	840	168	1,008
Bangalore	... 1912	23	17	40	14	54	37	91	57	148	34	182
"	... 1913	22	29	51	18	69	14	83	35	118	nil	118
Guntakal	... 1912	6	16	22	4	26	9	35	24	59	32	91
"	... 1913	76	31	107	81	188	96	284	87	371	81	452
Hubli	... 1912	...	27	27	12	39	31	70	44	114	10	124
"	... 1913	19	25	44	2	46	closed	46	closed	46	closed	46
Tirupathur	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	22	22	15	37	34	71	14	85	14	99
Namakkal	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	18	16	33	58	91	55	146	83	229	87	316
Dharmapuri	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	35	35	36	71	30	101	14	115	13	128
Atur	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	3	26	29	48	77	61	138	44	182	67	249
Nanjangoda	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	...	...	12	12	28	40	29	69	19	88
Total...	1912	155	192	347	187	534	439	973	451	1,424	389	1,813
"	1913	201	307	508	480	988	544	1,532	523	2,055	449	2,504

Agencies.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	March.	Total.	April.	Total.	May.	Total.	June.	Total.
Palghat Circle.												
Erode	... 1912	134	135	269	144	413	224	637	302	939	174	1,113
"	... 1913	145	187	332	262	594	211	805	216	1,021	274	1,295
Dindigul	... 1912	75	90	165	139	304	242	546	289	835	235	1,130
"	... 1913	168	154	322	178	500	263	763	403	1,166	357	1,523
Karur	... 1912	46	67	113	83	196	118	314	96	410	118	528
"	... 1913	64	71	135	61	196	147	343	184	527	87	614
Palghat	... 1912	36	66	102	56	158	62	220	82	302	167	469
"	... 1913	84	90	174	71	245	41	286	105	391	91	482
Tirur	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	6	5	11	10	21	closed	21	closed	21	closed	21
Cannanore	... 1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
"	... 1913	...	2	2	15	17	9	26	10	36	56	92
Total...	1912	291	358	649	422	1,071	646	1,717	769	2,486	754	3,240
"	... 1913	467	509	976	597	1,573	671	2,244	918	3,162	865	4,027
Grand Total...	1912	2,943	3,453	6,396	4,314	10,710	7,365	18,075	11,717	29,792	12,546	42,338
"	... 1913	3,491	3,911	7,402	4,837	12,239	9,328	21,567	14,882	36,449	15,063	51,512



Extract from "The Referee."

June 8th, 1913.

SLEEPING SICKNESS.

A missionary is not necessarily a person sent by other persons to propagate religion. Anyone is a missionary who is driven by a burning desire to discover or to propagate truth for the good of mankind. In the annals of missionary endeavour there are few stories more romantic than the achievements of those who have worked for the good of mankind without specific ties with any religious body. I have lately been reading "The Pagan Tribes of Borneo," by Charles Hose, Doctor of Science; and William McDougall, M.B., F.R.S. Dr. Hose is a type of missionary who does not advertise, and who is not connected with any society. So modest is he that in a work of some seven hundred pages he does not even mention his contribution to the health of Asia and Africa by the abolition of the horrible disease known as beri-beri.

Beri-beri is, or was, a widespread disease characterised by anaemia, degeneration of muscular tissues, debility, numbness, pain, paralysis of the extremities, exhaustion, and syncope. The name is probably derived from the Sinhalese word "beri," meaning weakness; beri-beri signifying great weakness. The disease prevails wherever men eat polished rice—that is to say, in Ceylon, in India, in Burma, in the Malayan Peninsula, and amongst the

crews of ships trading to ports in the Persian Gulf, the Red Sea, the Coast of Africa, the Bay of Bengal, China, Siam, the Islands of the Indian Archipelago, and in the Australian Seas. On the West Coast of Africa and in the interior beri-beri is known as the sleeping sickness. Dr. Stephen Paget, who wrote the article on Medicine in the "Britannica Year-Book for 1913," says that "few events in pathology during late years have been more notable or more happy than the discovery of the cause of this endemic disease."

As a pioneer no man has done more than Dr. Charles Hose in hunting down and establishing the cause of beri-beri. As far back as 1899 he asserted in British Medical Journals, after years of experiment, that rice was the determining cause. The medical profession is now satisfied that wholemeal rice differs from polished rice so essentially that the difference is one of life or death to consumers. In the outer skin of rice is a substance which is called vitamine. It exists in the proportions of no more than ten grains to a ton of rice. Dr. Hose guided the medical profession and the chemists into the right track, whereby tens of thousands of lives have been saved. As the result of the self-imposed mission of Dr. Hose and others, though unthanked and unrecognised, beri-beri bids fair to bid good-bye to this world.

The mystery of plant life and of human life is enhanced by the discovery that beri-beri, leprosy, scurvy, and other diseases are not due to climate, temperature, or miasma, but to the absence of a substance which is present as a mere trace in the husks of rice, and, presumably, in other grain food. If a pigeon is fed on polished rice alone beri-beri attacks it, but if a few hours before the pigeon dies a tiny dose of vitamine be given to it then the pigeon quickly recovers. But the wonder does not end here. Dr. Stephen Paget tells us that the work on beri-beri throws light on scurvy, epidemic, dropsy, and other diseases. Limes contain a substance similar to vitamine, present in about one

in a million parts of the fruit. When one sees the manner in which honours are lavished on people who do nothing to earn them except subscribe to or lie for their Party, the average man wonders why men like Dr. Hose are not chosen for distinctions which they would adorn. It is time that the system of distributing honours was redeemed by rewarding distinguished and silent service wrought for humanity.

[This extract covers much the same ground as the letter from Mr. James Ryan recently published in the Daily Press. —ED.]

MILITARY SERVICE.

The following extract from the Final Address to the Officers of the Senior Division of the Staff College on 30th November, 1912, by Major-General W. R. Robertson, C.V.O., C.B., D.S.O., Commandant, Staff College, Camberley, will probably be of interest.

"Bearing on this matter of loyalty, some of you are, I understand, a little in doubt as to the extent to which you are at liberty to discuss in public the introduction of Compulsory Military Service—a question which is much to the front in these days. One frequently hears it said that it is the business of the General Staff to teach the nation the necessity for universal service, but I never quite understand what is meant by that statement. Whatever it may mean, I would point out that, in so far as it may be the business of the General Staff to do this at all, the business is that of the General Staff at Army Headquarters and not of any and every General Staff Officer, and certainly not of every Officer. It seems to be overlooked that there are a large number of General Staff Officers at the War Office, whose duty it is, under the orders of the Chief of the Imperial General Staff, to lay the views and requirements of the Army before the proper authorities, and they must be credited with doing what is right in this respect. It is only natural that officers like you who have been constantly studying war for two years and more should feel very strongly on this subject, and I personally regard it as a distinctly healthy sign that you do so. History, especially recent history shows in what a hopeless position any nation may one day be if it neglects to make due preparation for war, and you have learnt that events move much more quickly now than in the past: that the incompetent general is now given no opportunity to correct his mistakes: that ill-trained troops are given no time in which to make themselves efficient and that a very heavy penalty is the result of inadequate peace preparation. Knowing all this it is your plain duty to devote serious and constant thought to the question, so that when you are called upon in an official capacity to advise and to help you may be able to do so with intelligence, usefulness, and conviction. But until you are so called you will recognize, I am sure, that in discussing this or any other question of Army Policy, you must be guided by the instructions contained in the Memorandum of the Chief of the Imperial General Staff published in the Army Review of April last."

7

If one were to believe what the Home Government tells us we should think that the settlement of this question is not going to take place for a generation; but although the introduction of Universal Service is not as near as some of us wish still it is gradually becoming so obviously necessary that it can surely only be a matter of a few short years before its introduction.

The most interesting part of General Robertson's remarks on Compulsory Service is this sentence—"ill-trained troops are given no time in which to take themselves efficient and that a very heavy penalty is the result of inadequate peace preparation."

In Britain it is recognised that Territorials are far more efficient than Volunteers were; they are better organised, better trained, and altogether better fitted to take the field. The whole system is better. Here in Ceylon we are only Volunteers still and Volunteers are likely to remain as long as the leaders of the different communities take as little active interest as they at present do in the service of protection. Among the Colombo Finns I am satisfied there is not one to be found that would prevent one of its Assistants whether in Colombo or Up-Country from joining one or other of the Volunteer Corps; but how many are there that actively encourage their men to join? It is no doubt unfortunate that there is to-day just as there always has been a number of our youth who are either so superior or so miserably degenerate and lazy that they cannot be bothered to take their share of the burden of manhood; these are quite satisfied and content to allow others (men) to bear their share in addition to their own. There are yet again others who, real good men and true, still cannot realise the situation and who say that they will come forward when there is any trouble; let these men listen to these words—"history shows in what a hopeless position any nation may one day be if it neglects to make due preparation for war . . . ill-trained troops are given no time in which to make themselves efficient." These are the men who, in my opinion, should be actively encouraged to do their duty and join us.

When will the Chamber of Commerce and the Planters' Associations of Ceylon move in this important matter and actively associate themselves with their Citizen Soldiers? How many members of either body are aware that neither the Ceylon Mounted Rifles nor the Ceylon Planters' Rifle Corps has a Headquarters, and that both may be turned out of the present buildings (courteously lent by the General Officer Commanding) at a moment's notice? How many know of the present financial position of the C. P. R. C.? How many care? Always most kind in listening to the "enthusiast," when they cannot escape they will always try and get "away to luncheon and not be back before six" if they think that they are going to be cornered and compelled to discuss Volunteering in a practical manner.

I propose shortly offering both bodies an opportunity of taking a little interest in this matter.

W. H. BIDDULPH,

Lieut.-Colonel,

Commanding C. P. R. C.

CEYLON MOUNTED RIFLES.

Strength Return for Month Ending June, 1913.

DETAIL.		Instructional Staff.																									
		Lieut.-Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants & 2nd Lieuts.	Quartermaster.	Total Officers.	Regtl. Sergt. Major.	Regt. Q. M. Sergt.	Farr. Q. M. Sergt.	S. S. Majors.	Sqd. Q. M. Sergt.	Sergeants.	Orderly Room Clerk.	Farr. Sergeants.	Corporals.	Trumpeters.	Shoeing Smiths.	Troopers.	Total Rank and File.	Total all Ranks.	Adjutant.	S. S. M. Instructor.	Sergt. Instructor.	Medical Officer.	Vet'y. Officer.	Total.
Regtl. Staff.	Staff.	1	...	1	2	1	5	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	7	1	1	1	...	...	3
A. Squadron.																											
Staff	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	5	...	...	...	...	...	...
No. I. Troop	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	1	...	20	24	25	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ II. „	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	9	11	12	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ III. „	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	24	27	28	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ IV. „	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	1	21	28	29	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL...		...	1	1	4	...	6	...	...	...	1	1	3	...	1	7	5	1	74	93	99	...	...	...	...	...	...
B. Squadron.																											
Staff	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	5	...	...	...	...	...	...
No. I. Troop	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	1	10	14	15	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ II. „	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	10	13	14	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ III. „	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	21	24	25	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ IV. „	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	11	15	16	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL...		...	1	1	4	...	6	...	...	...	1	1	6	...	1	3	2	3	52	69	75	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total Regt. Staff	...	1	...	1	2	1	5	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	7	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total A. Squadron	...	...	1	1	4	...	6	...	...	...	1	1	3	...	1	7	5	1	74	93	99	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total B. Squadron	...	...	1	1	4	...	6	...	...	...	1	1	6	...	1	3	2	3	52	69	75	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total Strength	...	1	2	3	10	1	17	...	1	1	2	2	9	...	2	10	7	4	126	164	181	1	1	1	...	...	3
Total Strength last Return	1	2	3	10	1	17	...	...	1	2	2	9	1	2	10	8	4	127	166	183	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Increase Since	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Decrease Since	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Sqms.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Establishment	...	1	3	3	10	1	18	1	1	1	2	2	11	1	2	13	8	8	184	234	252	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wanting to Complete	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	2	1	...	3	1	4	58	70	71	...	...	...	...	...	...
Reserve	...	1	1	2	6	...	10	1	1	...	1	...	5	...	...	2	1	...	14	25	35	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total including Reserve...	2	3	5	16	1	27	1	2	1	3	2	14	...	2	12	8	4	140	189	216	1	1	1	...	...	3	

G. H. STEVENSON, Captain,

Adj. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.

STRENGTH RETURN.
CEYLON PLANTERS' RIFLE CORPS
FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE, 1913.

Coy.	SECTION.	VOLUNTEER STAFF.										Colour-Sergeant.	Sergeant.	Lance-Sergts. & Corp's.	Sergt.-Bugler.	Buglers.	Privates and Lance-Corporals.	Total Strength of Corps exclusive of Permanent Staff.	
		Lieut.-Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	2nd Lieutenants.	Adjutant.	Qr. Master.	Sergt.-Major.	Qr. M. Sergt.									
	Staff	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	
A.	Kelany Valley	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	32	...	35	
	Ratnapura	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	7	...	11	
	Pelmadulla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	8	54
B.	Kandy	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	1	21	...	27	
	Matale	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	11	...	14	
	Madulkelle	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	7	...	9	
C.	Rangalla	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	6	...	8	58
	Mattakelle	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	9	...	13	
	Agrapatna	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	4	...	7	
D.	Kotagalla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	9	...	11	
	Darawella	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	6	...	7	
	Maskeliya	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	7	...	8	
E.	Bogawantalawa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	4	...	5	51
	Nuwara Eliya	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	5	
	Madulsima	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	9	...	10	
F.	Haputale	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	18	...	21	
	Badulla	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	16	...	19	
	Uda Pussellawa	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	10	...	13	
G.	Batticaloa	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	9	77
	Kalutara	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	24	...	28	
	Kurunegalla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	...	14	
H.	Galle	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	13	...	14	
	Morawak Korale	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Anuradhapura	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	10	...	14	
I.	Trincomalie	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	3	73
	Colombo	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	...	...	42	...	49	49
	Ambegamuwa	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	5	...	9	
J.	Pussellawa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	...	12	
	Dolosbage	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	...	13	34
	Colombo	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	1	55	...	66	66
K.	Motor Cycle Section	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	15	...	19	19
	* TOTAL STRENGTH	...	1	2	10	8	6	2	1	1	7	19	19	1	5	399	...	481	48
	Strength by last Return	...	1	2	11	8	6	2	1	1	4	19	19	1	5	391	...	471	
L.	Increase Since	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	8	...	10	
	Decrease Since	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	* C. P. R. C. Reserve	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	54	...	Increase	...	...	...	...	10	...	...
M.	Total Strength including Reserve	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	535	...	Reserve Increase	...	...	...	...	4	...	...

G. H. STEVENSON, Captain.
Adj. C. M. R. & C. P. R. C.



The Grange, Weybridge,
Surrey, 27th June, 1913.

The SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

Dear Sir,

I have to thank you for your kind letter of congratulations as well as the cablegram, sent on behalf of the Planters' Association.

It is the kind wishes and congratulations of our friends that add so greatly to the value of the dignity conferred upon me, and I need hardly say how much I appreciate the letter from the Planters' Association.

Believe me,

Yours truly,

(Signed) EDWARD ROSLING.



P. A. COMMITTEE.

LAST FRIDAY'S MEETING.

Minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the Committee of the Planters' Association of Ceylon held at Kandy, on Friday, the 11th July, 1913, at 2.30 p.m.:

Present:—Mr. F. H. Layard (Chairman, P. A. of Ceylon), the Hon. Mr. William Sinclair, Messrs. H. Scoble Nicholson (Ceylon Labour Commissioner), R. Huyshe Eliot (Dikoya P. A.), A. M. Charnichael (Kelani Valley P. A.), C. B. Prettejohn (Hon. Secretary, Maskeliya P. A.), D. J. Blyth (Pussellawa P. A.), Geo. Benzie (Chairman, Pussellawa P. A.), L. A. Wright (Maskeliya P. A.), O. Shelton Agar, (visitor), Jackson Smale (Chairman, Kegalle P. A.), P. J. M. Box (K. K. and Panwila P. A.), N. W. Davies (Nuwara Eliya Districts P. A.), R. F. Megginson (Hon. Secretary, Nuwara Eliya Districts P. A.), W. H. Biddulph (Chairman, Udupussellawa P. A.), H. S. Cameron (Hon. Secretary, Matale P. A.), H. Storey (Kandy), William Gibson (Haputale P. A.), H. G. Eccles (Chairman, Dikoya P. A.), G. H. Golledge (Chairman, Kalutara P. A.), A. Thorp (Chairman, Matale P. A.), T. Y. Wright (Chairman K. K. and Panwila P. A.), W. R. Westland (Kandy), Martin M. Smith (Kandy), H. D. Garrick (Matale P. A.), Tom Hyatt (Chairman, Kelani Valley P. A.), J. G. Napier (K. K. and Panwila P. A.), W. Carver (Kelani Valley), S. A. Michels (visitor), C. du Pre Moore (Chairman, Kandy Districts P. A.), F. E. Henderson (Hon. Secretary, Kandy Districts P. A.), G. L. H. Doudney (K. K. and Panwila P. A.),

J. Percy Hortin (K. K. and Panwila P. A.), A. P. Jukes (Maskeliya P. A.), J. B. Sidgwick (Chairman and Hon. Secretary, Punduloya P. A.), J. Henry Marcel (Ramboda P. A.), C. W. Bovy-Lysberg (Kotmalie P. A.), H. B. T. Boucher (visitor—Rangala), T. Gidden (Kandy), A. J. Austin Dickson (Chairman Kotmalie P. A.), Gordon Pyper (Kandy), Hodgson Bell (Matale P. A.), M. H. Reeves (Chairman, Dolosbagie and Yakdessa P. A.), S. P. Blackmore (Ambagamuwa P. A.), J. Lochore (Colombo), W. Shakespeare (Colombo), A. Hamilton Harding (Chairman Dimbula P. A.), G. H. Masfield (Kandy), L. A. Ewart (Chairman, Hewaheta P. A.), W. M. Newton (Hon. Secretary, Hewaheta P. A.), Lionel C. Maundslay (Dikoya P. A.), H. Gordon Griffin (Hon. Secretary, Dikoya P. A.), Gilbert Fenning (Pussellawa—visitor), N. J. Wilson Blackett (Chairman, Ramboda P. A.), A. Lee Simpson, (Kandy Districts P. A.), J. D. Hoare (Hon. Secretary, Sabaragamuwa P. A.), G. J. Murray (Kandy Districts P. A.), Huntley Wilkinson (Hon. Secretary, Dimbula P. A.), J. L. Tancock (Kandy), M. L. Wilkins (Ambagamuwa P. A.), G. C. Bliss (Kandy), Edgar Turner (Colombo), W. Coombe (Kandy), R. G. Coombe (Haputale P. A.), J. R. Barkley (Kalutara P. A.), H. Inglis (Kalutara P. A.), A. S. Long Price (Chairman, Kurunegalle P. A.), J. Hall Brown (Chairman, Rangala P. A.), P. P. C. Walker, (Hon. Secretary, Pussellawa P. A.), J. S. Paterson (Kandy), and John Still (Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon), 68 Members and four visitors.

The notice calling the meeting was read.

The minutes of proceedings of a meeting of the Committee of the Planters' Association held at Kandy on Friday, the 9th May, 1913, were submitted for confirmation. Resolved:—"That they be and they hereby are confirmed."

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE.—Submitted letters and telegrams regretting inability to be present at meeting from Messrs. P. G. Wood, J. W. Hyde, Hew Kennedy, L. Moir, R. H. Villiers, D. B. Williamson, and F. M. Mackwood.

Resolved:—"That this Committee records its deep regret at the death of Mr. James Westland, a life member of the Planters' Association of Ceylon, and expresses sincere condolence with the family." Resolved:—"That this Committee records its hearty appreciation of the honour of Knighthood conferred upon Sir Edward Rosling by His Majesty the King."

MISCELLANEOUS.

Read the following letter from the Chilaw District P. A. and resolved:—"That the correspondence be referred to the Hon. the Rural Member of Council with a request that he will take the matter up."

Chilaw, June 12th, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Ceylon Planters' Association.

Dear Sir,

I enclose a copy of a resolution re minor roads which was passed at a meeting of my association held on the 10th instant. I was directed to state that several minor roads in this district will become important feeder roads to the new railway, but that at present they are in such a bad state of repair that it is almost impossible to get carts over them in wet weather. During the last few years their condition has been getting worse and worse, and repeated complaints to the District Road Committee have done no good whatever. My

Association hopes that the Parent Association will have some influence in impressing on Government its obligation in this matter.

Resolution Referred to:—"That in view of the disgraceful state of the minor roads in this district the Parent Association be written to pointing out that certain roads will feed the new railway and asking them to press on Government the necessity of putting these roads in proper order without further delay."

I am, Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
(Signed) A. V. GOULD,
Hon. Secretary, Chilaw P. A.

Chilaw, June 23rd, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

Dear Sir,

As requested in your memo of the 16th instant I beg to forward you the following information regarding the minor roads of this district:—

DUNCANNAWA-NATHANDIE ROAD, about 6 miles in length but continues for a long distance in Kurunegala district. There is very heavy traffic along this road, specially at the present time, while the Tuntota bridge is closed for repairs, which makes it the only outlet road for a very large area (about 5,000 cultivated acres).

HALDANDUWA-NATHANDIE ROAD, 6 miles from Haldanduwa to Nathandie and 5 miles from Haldanduwa to Kochchikade. This is also a very important road, which has been allowed to get into a disgraceful condition.

NATHANDIE-MADAMPE ROAD, also about 6 miles. It joins the main road from Negombo to Chilaw at Lunnuoya.

BANGADENIYA-MANDALANA ROAD, 4 miles connects with the main road from Chilaw to Puttalam at Bangadeniya 4 miles north of Chilaw. This is the only outlet road for a very large district and connects with the Puttalam-Kurunegala road about 15 miles beyond Mandalana. A very important road.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) A. V. GOULD,
Hon. Secretary, Chilaw P. A.

Resolved:—"That the Secretary be allowed eight months' half-pay home leave after four years' service counting from January 1st, 1911, and in addition Rs. 1,000 in lieu of a free passage. This is to be subject to the Proprietors' Labour Federation undertaking its share of the expenditure."

Certain re-arrangements with regard to pointing were notified to the Committee and approved.

The following letters were laid on the table:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, 15th May, 1913.

THE HON. MR. EDWARD ROSLING,

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 11th May, addressed to the Officer Administering the Government, and I am to express His Excellency's regret that your departure from the Island will deprive the Legislative Council of your services.

2. In terms of section 22 of Ordinance No. 13 of 1910 His Excellency has been pleased to nominate Mr. William Sinclair, of Rangalla, to represent the European Rural Electorate in the Legislative Council during your absence.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) L. W. BOOTH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, 23rd May, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 7th May, 1913, I am directed to inform you that His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government has pleasure in nominating Mr. Edward Rosling to be a delegate of this Government at the Imperial Motor Transport Conference. Mr. F. A. Cooper has also been nominated as a delegate.

2. A copy of the correspondence and regulations referred to by you will be sent to Mr. Rosling.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) D. W. ARNOTT,
for Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, 6th June, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter of the 28th May, 1913, I am directed to inform you that, on the suggestion of the Chamber of Commerce, His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government has been pleased to nominate Mr. G. C. S. Hodgson to be a delegate of this Government at the Imperial Motor Transport Conference.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) D. W. ARNOTT,
for Colonial Secretary.

Kirklees, Uda Pussellawa,
Ceylon, June 13th, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
P. A. of Ceylon.

Sir,

Will the Planters' Association invite the Chamber of Commerce to consider the question of asking Government to place the Ceylon Volunteers on the same basis as the Territorial Force, England?

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) W. H. BIDDULPH.

A fairly long discussion followed Mr. Biddulph's letter, and it was decided that the following gentlemen should form a sub-Committee to report to the General Committee after conference during the forthcoming Camp at Diyatalawa.

Sub-Committee.—Messrs. W. H. Biddulph, T. Y. Wright, W. G. B. Dickson, R. G. Coombe and the Hon. Mr. William Sinclair.

Read the following letter from Mr. O. Shelton Agar, and resolved:—"That copies of the judgment in the case referred to be sent to District P. A.'s and to the P.C.M.O."

Mt. Temple, Gampola,
Ceylon, 17th June, 1913.

TO THE SECRETARY,
C. P. A. Kandy.

INFANT MORTALITY.

DEAR SIR,

At the last Supreme Court Sessions in Kandy, a Tamil cooly woman of Rothschild estate was convicted of murdering a newly-born infant and sentenced to undergo the extreme penalty of the law.

Probably this is not an uncommon occurrence, especially in the case of a female child, and it might be advisable to publish copies of the above case in the vernacular, to be posted up on every estate, as a warning to the Tamil labour force. Infant mortality is much too high among the estate population, and I believe the authorities view this fact with some concern.

Kindly put this letter before your next Committee meeting.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) OLIVER SHELTON AGAR.

Ceylon Duty on Tea.

AN IMPORTANT PROPOSAL.

Read the following letter from Government.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, 9th June, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association of Ceylon.

SIR,

With reference to correspondence terminating with your letter dated 24th January, 1908, I am directed by the Officer Administering the Government to inform you that the Hon. Mr. W. H. Jackson, Principal Collector of Customs, has suggested that in connection with the port improvements now being effected in accordance with the recommendations of the Harbour Commission, the warehouses to be erected on the land at present in occupation of the Harbour Works Department should be constructed with an upper storey, such storey to be let to the various produce firms for tea blending purposes. Mr. Jackson further suggests that in order to encourage the blending industry in Colombo the duty on all foreign teas imported into Ceylon should be remitted. I annex a copy of an extract from his letter to Government.

2. His Excellency desires me to ask for an expression of the views of the Planters' Association of Ceylon on these proposals.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) D. W. ARNOTT,
for Colonial Secretary.

(Extract Referred to.)

If this be done, i.e., upper storey warehouses built and a rail connection made from the Fort Railway Station, all tea and rubber should be conveyed direct to the sea front—the produce on arrival to be stacked on the ground floor and thence shipped direct (if not be sold locally), or if for local sale to be kept on the ground floor until after sale, when it will be taken over by the buyer and by him moved by lift to the upper floor, where he can blend or sort it in any way he wishes, and then by lift transfer it to the barges on the sea-side of the warehouses for shipment, the upper storey being rented to the various produce firms.

At the same time the time has now come, in my opinion, to admit all teas into the Colony free of duty, these warehouses would then become big blending warehouses and the Port a great central tea market.

Resolved:—"That this Committee emphatically opposes both the proposal to provide warehouses for the purpose of blending teas and the proposal to remit the duty on foreign teas imported into Colombo, and that the Secretary do write to Government in these terms, sending a copy of his letter to the Chamber of Commerce."

THE INTERNATIONAL RUBBER AND ALLIED INDUSTRIES EXHIBITION, 1914.

Resolved:—"That Ceylon should be represented at this Exhibition and that the Ceylon Association in London should be asked to watch Ceylon's interests at the Exhibi-

tion. Further that Government be asked if it is prepared to assist in the same manner as was done at the International Rubber Exhibition in 1911."

Read the following letter from the Mincing Lane Tea and Rubber Share Brokers' Association, Limited.

6, Mincing Lane, London, E.C.,
11th June, 1913.

TO THE SECRETARY,

DEAR SIR,

The increasing output of rubber from the East points to the advisability of those interested in rubber plantations organising with the object of fostering new uses for the product.

My Committee would point out that an organisation exists, both in India and Ceylon, for pushing the sale of tea from these countries, but so far no steps have been taken by the Plantation Rubber Industry to find new outlets for the product.

The Committee of this Association, in order to give some incentive to place rubber to new uses, proposes to offer one hundred guineas at the Rubber Exhibition to be held in London next year for the best new use for rubber.

It has been in the mind of the Committee that if each individual Company took a small interest in the object of pushing Plantation Rubber, it would probably result in a larger consumption, and it is suggested that an Association be formed with a view to achieving this end.

There are some 530 rubber companies mentioned in the new book about to be published by this Association, and if each company would subscribe a small amount, say, 10s. for every £1,000 capital to such a scheme, a fair sum would be available, and, with a practical Committee, would be in a position to consider any scheme, such as laying experimental rubber roads, etc., and if thought desirable to foster such enterprise.

As other would be no promotion expenses in forming such an Association, all moneys subscribed would be available for expenditure for practical benefit to the industry.

My Committee will willingly subscribe £50 to such an Association and will be pleased to hear the views of your directors on the proposition.

Should a sufficient number of approving replies be received, my Committee are prepared to take further steps to formulate a practical scheme.

By order of the Board,
(Signed) A. KENDALL,
Secretary.

PROPRIETORS' LABOUR FEDERATION.

Read the following letter from Mr. R. Huyshe Eliot. A long discussion on the question followed, but no resolution was put to the Meeting.

Proprietors' Labour Federation of Ceylon,
Norwood, 22nd June, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Ceylon Planters' Association,
Kandy.

PROPRIETORS' LABOUR FEDERATION.

DEAR SIR,

With this I send you a copy of the new Rules of the above Federation which has just been circulated to all proprietors and their representatives.

These rules have been compiled after careful consideration, and will, I trust, be approved by the Ceylon Planters' Association as a body.

It must be clearly recognised that, if we can, at this stage, by co-operation, effect certain remedies in present conditions every possible effort should be made to bring this about.

Trusting for your hearty co-operation and support.

I am, Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
(Signed) R. HUYSHE ELIOT,
Chairman,
Proprietors' Labour Federation.

The following letter re the International Rubber Congress and Exhibition (Dutch Exhibition) was laid on the table and pamphlets were handed round.

Kandy, July 10th.

J. STILL, Esq.,

Secretary,

Ceylon Planters' Association.

DEAR SIR,

As promised yesterday I have the pleasure to send you a few books of the exhibition :—

Although the programme for the rubber congress is not yet official, I can tell you that probably we will have different well-known English speakers as H. C. Pratt of K. Lumpur, T. Petch of Peradeniya, H. Wright of London, N. J. Gallagher of Singapore, Clayton Beadle of London, E. B. Skinner of F. M. S., Dr. Philip Schdrowite of London, Kelway Bamber of Peradeniya, Frank Evans of Ibaden, South Nigeria, Prof. Hariso of British Guyana, etc.

I am sure we can expect very interesting day at Batavia, and I hope we will see many of the well-known Ceylon planters.

You can be assured we will do our utmost to give them a pleasant time and as regard to the exhibition to give them all facilities.

The Java planters can only be pleased to give back some hospitality where they so highly appreciate the friendship and hospitality they have always received in the F.M.S. and in Ceylon.

I go to-morrow to Mr. Hamilton of Henfold estate, Saturday to Mr. Scott of Waverley and on Sunday I go down by motor to Colombo and hope to see on my route a few estates.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) A. VAN LAER.

CARDAMOM THEFTS.

Read the following letter from Government :—

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, 13th May, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,

Planters' Association.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 15th January, 1913, I am directed to inform you that His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government as at present advised is prepared to approve of the introduction of special legislation for the prevention of thefts of cardamoms on the lines of the Ordinances dealing with thefts of cacao and of rubber.

2. His Excellency observes, however, that under section 17 of "The Cacao Thefts Prevention Ordinance 1904," the possession or charge of "wet cacao" has to be accounted for, while in the case of tea and certain other products it is the "unripe produce" which is protected. Before, therefore, directions are given for a Cardamom Theft Ordinance to be drafted His Excellency wishes to know whether any particular kind of cardamoms should be specified in the Ordinance.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

(Signed) D. W. ARNOTT,
for Colonial Secretary.

This letter was circularised to all the District Planters' Associations, and it was resolved :—

"That their replies be sent to Government."

MEDICAL WANTS COMMITTEES.

Read the following letters :—

Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy, 13th May, 1913.

The Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY,
Colombo.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the name of Mr. Edgar Turner to serve on the above Committee in place of the Hon. Mr. Edward Rosling who will be leaving the island shortly. I beg to annex resolution in support of above.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

(Signed) JOHN STILL,
Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon.

Resolution.—"That Government be asked to appoint Mr. E. Turner to act upon this Committee in place of the Hon'ble Mr. E. Rosling."

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, 27th May, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,

Planters' Association of Ceylon.

Sir,

In continuation of my acknowledgment of your letter of the 13th May, I am directed to state that His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government has been pleased to appoint Mr. Edgar Turner to represent the Planters' Association of Ceylon on the Medical Wants Committee, in place of the Hon'ble Mr. Edward Rosling."

2. Mr. Turner has been informed accordingly.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

(Signed) D. W. ARNOTT,
for Colonial Secretary.

RUBBER THEFTS.

Read the following letters :—

RUBBER THEFTS.

Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy, 13th May, 1913.

The Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY,
Colombo.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith copy of resolution passed by my Committee at their meeting held on 9th instant re above subject.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

(Signed) JOHN STILL,
Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon.

Resolution.—"That this Association would urge upon Government the necessary of registering every producer of rubber, and of all such producers keeping a daily account of all rubber produced. Further this Association would urge that failure to keep such an account should be deemed an offence under the Ordinance."

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, 27th May, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,

Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy.

Sir,

In continuation of my acknowledgment of your letter of the 13th May, I am directed by His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government to request you to be so good as to give in detail the reasons for the proposal that every producer of rubber should be registered and that all such producers should keep a daily account of all rubber produced.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

(Signed) D. W. ARNOTT,
for Colonial Secretary.

Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy, 30th June, 1913.
The Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY,
Colombo.

Sir,

In further reply to your letter No. 8955, dated the 27th ultimo, I have the honour to submit the reasons detailed below in support of the proposal therein referred to:—

1. In 1908 the Rubber Thefts Prevention Ordinance was passed. It was amended in 1911 by the Rubber Thefts Prevention (Amendment) Ordinance.

2. The principal provisions of the law are as follows:—

Section 3. No one may buy rubber without a license.

Section 8. (a) No one may sell and no licensed dealer may buy rubber except in daylight or except in licensed premises.

(b) No licensed dealer may buy rubber from a person not known to him, from a juvenile or from an estate labourer.

(c) No licensed dealer may buy wet rubber under any circumstances.

Section 9. (1.) Every licensed dealer must keep a register of all his purchases showing date of receipt, weight, name of seller and price paid.

(2) When any rubber is received by a dealer into his premises whether the same is grown on his own estate or not he must enter particulars in the register.

(3) When any rubber is sent away by a dealer from his premises he must enter particulars in the register.

Section 10. Any Magistrate and certain police officers may inspect any licensed dealer's premises and books, and if any of the entries are found to be false the dealer is liable to a fine of Rs. 100 or to three months.

Section 16. (1) Any person found in possession of rubber reasonably suspected to be stolen who cannot satisfactorily account for its possession is liable to a fine of Rs. 200 or to six months.

3. An examination of the law outlined above discloses the fact that with the exception of Section 16 the provisions relate practically to licensed dealers only.

4. Section 16, however, stands by itself. It deals with any one and everyone. Its provisions are drastic, and it provided that an accused person, instead of being presumed to be innocent until proved guilty, shall be presumed to be guilty (if reasonably suspected) until he proves his innocence.

5. In dealing with the practical application of the law: I may dismiss the whole subject of the provisions with regard to licensed dealers with the remark that the powers already conferred are sufficient to enable the police to deal with them. Section 16 alone therefore remains for examination.

It will be observed that to prove an offence under this section it is necessary for the prosecution to establish (1) That the accused person was found in possession of rubber. (2) That there was reasonable suspicion for believing that the rubber was stolen.

6. In a recent case a person who owned a few trees was found to have been selling more rubber than his trees could have produced. The police charged him with having been in possession of rubber reasonably suspected to have been stolen, i.e., of rubber for which he could not satisfactorily account.

The facts were proved satisfactorily. The man was convicted by the Magistrate. He appealed to the Supreme Court, and the Judge who heard the case ruled that it was necessary to follow the actual wording of the Ordinance exactly, and that it was accordingly incumbent on the prosecution to prove that the accused "was found in possession of rubber," and that it was not sufficient for them to prove merely that "He had been in possession." The accused was acquitted.

7. The question therefore still remains as to how the powers necessary to deal with the persons proved to have dealt in rubber reasonably suspected to have been stolen are to be conferred on the police.

Experience shows that there is only one class of person with whom it is necessary to deal. It is the small producer—the man with a few trees or with a few acres of rubber. He is our real danger. He is not bound to obtain a license and is not bound to keep books. He, unlike a member of the ordinary public, can keep rubber in his house without danger to himself, and he can sell rubber without awkward questions being asked. Provided that he is never in actual and immediate possession at one time of more than his trees can produce in an unlimited time, he cannot be prosecuted under Section 16.

The only way out of the difficulty that I can use is to compel him to keep a daily record of his receipts and disbursements and to make the making of false entries an offence under the Ordinance. From a legal point of view there would be no objection to this course as no question would arise of any usual presumption as to a person's guilt. Evidence as to previous transactions would be relevant, and his innocence or guilt would be conclusively proved by his own books. I, however, think that if Government agreed to legislate in this direction the law would have to apply to all alike, and every producer of rubber when tapping would have to keep a record of (1) the amount of wet rubber brought in daily; (2) the amount of dry rubber produced; and (3) the amount sold.

8. It is well-known that this record is already kept on every properly-run estate.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) JOHN STILL,
Secretary, Planters' Association of Ceylon.

ARRACK TAVERNS.

Resolved:—"That the attention of the Committee be drawn to the remark reported to have been made by Sir Edward Rosling at the Ceylon Association meeting on the question of the Norwood arrack tavern, and the Chairman be requested to send copies of the correspondence between the Committee and the Government Agent on the subject to the Ceylon Association in London."

PLANT PESTS.

Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy, 14th May, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Planters' Association.

Dear Sir,

I am directed to send you a copy of the letter received from the Director of Agriculture, and to inform you that the subject will be brought up at the next meeting of the General Committee of the Planters' Association.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) JOHN STILL,
Secretary, Planters' Association of Ceylon.

Department of Agriculture,
Peradeniya, Ceylon, May 9th, 1913.

THE CHAIRMAN,
Planters' Association, Kandy.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith copy of a resolution passed at the meeting of the Committee of Agricultural Experiments held on May 8th, 1913, and to beg that you will kindly submit the same to the consideration of the Planters' Association at your earliest convenience.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) R. N. LYNE,
Director of Agriculture.

(Copy of Resolution referred to.)

Resolved:—"That the Planters' Association be asked whether compulsory proclaiming of plant pests on individual estates is desirable in the interests of the planting industry."

Resolved:—"That further replies be awaited before action is taken."

THE EXPERIMENTAL STATION AT MAHA ILLUPPALAMA.

Mr. A. THORP said that he understood that Government contemplated selling the planted land at this station, and he deprecated the fact.

Resolved:—"That this Committee is of opinion that the Maha Iluppalama Experiment Station should not be leased or sold until there has been an opportunity for further consideration."

RAGAMA CAMP.

It was notified to the Committee that the issue of new cloths at Ragama to Coast coolies would begin from August 1st. The cloths are to be supplied by the Spinning and Weaving Company.

LACRE LORRY.

It was notified that the Railway Department propose to run their new lorry between Upper Hewaheta and Kandy.

CEYLON ASSOCIATION IN LONDON.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Wm. Martin Leake for his gift of a portrait in oils of himself.

It is a handsome addition to the Planters' Association picture gallery.

THE "PLANTING GAZETTE."

The editor of the *Gazette* asked permission to register this periodical as a newspaper and the Controlling Committee of four persons were requested to go into and report on this question.

A vote of thanks to the Chair terminated the proceedings.

(Signed) JOHN STILL,
Secretary, P. A. of Ceylon.



KNUCKLES, KELEBOKKA AND PANWILA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A Committee meeting of the above Association was held at Madulkelle on Thursday, the 24 April. Present:—Messrs. T. Y. Wright (Chairman), J. G. Napier, John Greig, E. R. Cox, John Hemsted, J. P. Hortin, P. J. M. Box, E. H. L. Thomas, C. D. Hunt, H. L. Blacklaw and G. L. H. Doudney (Hon. Secretary.)

After the Committee the general meeting was held, at which there were present, in addition to above, Messrs. A. D. Morley, H. F. Russell, H. Hopwood, R. G. B. Williams, A. D. Donald, A. H. S. Clarke and E. C. Scott.

The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed after the paragraph "Roads" in the annual report had been altered to read:—"Roads still show no improvement and are particularly bad between Panwila and Huluganga."

MOTOR TRANSPORT.

Mr. WRIGHT submitted a letter from the Hon. the Colonial Secretary with reference to the type of lorry that Government will allow to run on the Wattagama-Kabragalla

and Wattagama-Knuckles roads in their present condition. After some discussion it was decided to appoint a sub-Committee to enquire as to the possibilities of a rope-way from Wattagama to Huluganga and to ask Government to bear half the cost of the preliminary survey.

The following were appointed to the sub-Committee:—Messrs. Hortin, Box, Blacklaw, Hunt, Napier, Chairman and Hon. Secretary.

Mr. NAPIER asked if Government had refused to run motor transport in connection with the railway as promised by Sir Henry McCallum.

The CHAIRMAN: Government did not consider itself bound to do so.

Mr. Box suggested that the sub-Committee draw up and submit a scheme to Government.

Mr. HEMSTED seconded—Carried.

LIQUID FUEL.

The question of a liquid fuel installation at Wattagama was then discussed and, on the motion of the Chairman it was decided that the Hon. Secretary write the Matale and Kandy Planters' Associations to find out what estates would get their full from Wattagama if an installation were to be erected there, and also write to Messrs. Delmege, Forsyth & Co. to ascertain the smallest quantity for which they would erect an installation.

COOLIES RECRUITED IN 1912.

This was the next item on the agenda and the Chairman said it had been remarked that this district had recruited the smallest number of coolies from the coast. He had ascertained that 1,612 was the correct number and it was quite satisfactory for the acreage.

The consideration of the District Labour Federation then came before the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said that he had had this placed on the agenda to get the opinion of the district on the matter. He did not think there was a very great exchange of coolies between local estates, and those cases which did occur were generally where marriages had been arranged. He thought that many estates already had an understanding with their neighbours that they were not to take on each other's coolies except in cases of marriage.

Mr. BLACKLAW said he was quite in sympathy with the proposal, but the General Manager of his Company would not allow any of the Company's estates to join a local federation as they belonged to the Proprietors' Labour Federation.

Mr. RUSSELL thought it an excellent scheme, but they should try and get neighbouring estates on the borders of the district to come in also.

The CHAIRMAN said we must first get the scheme going. It can be elaborated afterwards.

Mr. NAPIER said it would not prevent the moving of coolies in the district, as it would only be necessary to write to the paying-off estate for consent to take the coolies on.

Mr. HORTIN was strongly against the proposal, as he thought it would only tend to drive coolies out of the district altogether whereas though they might, at present, go to a neighbouring estate they generally found their way back to their original estate eventually. He proposed that "the movement of coolies within the district is not sufficient to warrant the formation of a Local Federation."

This was seconded by Mr. NAPIER and carried.

PANWILA-HULUGANGA Road.

The condition of the Panwila-Huluganga road was the next item on the agenda.

Mr. Box said: I asked the Hon. Secretary to put this on the agenda for discussion at to-day's meeting. Through a misunderstanding it appeared as a resolution in the private notice to members. If I am in order I would like to get the meeting's opinion as to whom we are to complain to about the condition of this road and then propose a resolution. Is it to be to the Colonial Secretary, the Director of Public Works or the Provincial Engineer? All present who use this road as far as Huluganga will, I think, bear me out when I say that the state of the road between Galphele estate and Huluganga is disgraceful. I must say that I have never seen such a large stretch on this road in such bad repair. When our last annual report was before your Committee the remarks therein as to roads were that "the roads have been kept in fair order," and as I laid an objection to this the wording of the report was altered to "the roads still show no improvement and are particularly bad between Panwila and Huluganga." Through an unfortunate oversight the alteration was not made in the copy sent to the press, and I am afraid no action was taken in the matter. Most of us are aware that carting difficulties are on the increase, and I think certain members have large stocks of produce in their factories far above the normal quantities. Will it facilitate matters if the roads are allowed to deteriorate? I say "No," and our object is to have our roads in such order that our transport may be done in an efficient manner. It was pointed out to me the other day that a double quantity of metal was being piled by Raxawa and Panwila and I was very glad to see it, but if you go past the old toll house you will find very little metal if any. We are all aware that little can be done to improve the road until suitable rains set in, but every effort should be made to get the necessary material on the site for application. If we move in the matter now something substantial may be the outcome of our protest. If the materials are not immediately obtained, and applied when the weather permits, our carting difficulties will be increased, as a certain percentage of bulls will be laid up with sore necks during the coming South-West Monsoon. I think you will find that the records of this Association show few criticisms of the roads in our district, but now that we have a serious complaint against the P. W. D., we should forward our protest to Government. With your decision as to whom we shall approach in the matter I shall propose a resolution.

After some discussion it was decided, on the motion of Mr. HORTIN, to send copies of the resolution Mr. Box was to propose to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, the Provincial Engineer, the District Engineer, and the Director of Public Works.

Mr. Box then proposed the following resolution:—"That in the opinion of this Association the cart road between Galphele estate and Huluganga is in a very bad state of repair and requires the immediate attention of the Public Works Department. That copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, the Director of Public Works, the Provincial Engineer and the District Engineer."

The CHAIRMAN said he wished to second this resolution. He read a letter from the Provincial Engineer, who said

there were small holes and ruts in the steep parts, but the road was really in very bad condition, so bad that he disliked bringing his motor car over it at all.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Read letter from K. V. Planters' Association embodying resolution *re* cattle disease which, on the motion of Mr. HUNT, seconded by the CHAIRMAN, received the unanimous support of this Association.

Read letter from Secretary, Planters' Association, *re* presentation to the Hon. Mr. Edward Rosling.

Mr. Hapwood was deputed to collect subscriptions.

Read letter from Secretary, Planters' Association, *re* School of Tropical Medicine. This was laid on the table.

THE MAIN CART ROAD.

Mr. BLACKLAW then rose to address the meeting: Without fear of exaggeration, I may say that the resolution I have to propose is one of the most vital and important that has come before our Association for some time. As you are aware the heavy rains of last January, and particularly the deluge that fell on the 17th of that month, caused great damage to our cart road. I wish particularly to draw your attention to three parts of the road, viz., to the two land slides, one at the "hair-pin" corner near the Gala below Galphele, the other on Galphele itself. Every one of you here is aware that the road at the spots mentioned has given way, the side of the road sliding down quite thirty feet. At Kelebokka factory large cracks have appeared on the bank above the road and part of the side of the road has given way. It only requires a few heavy plumps of rain to send these three parts of the road to glory. Gentlemen, it is now over four months since the damage was done, and up to the present absolutely nothing has been done towards repairing it. Why this should be incomprehensible unless the P. W. D. want to act up to their character of being the most dilatory and apathetic department of Government. The S. W. Monsoon will soon be on us, and if we get heavy rain, I shudder to think what will happen to the unrepaired parts of the road. Picture to yourselves the condition we will be in if the road gives way altogether, which in all probability it will do if left as it is. It may take many days to effect even temporary repairs to allow carts to pass across and meanwhile where will we be? When a person has a main artery cut, unless prompt measures are taken to ligature, it will bleed to death. Similarly our main artery of communication gives way and remain unrepaired, our coolies stand a chance of starving to death. Compare the callous apathy of the P. W. D. with the prompt measures taken by the railway department to restore communication between Wattegama and Matale when the line was washed away last January. By working day and night they enabled to run trains between these stations about a fortnight sooner than they even expected to do. The P. W. D. evidently want wakening up. I fear we have sat with folded arms too long, hoping like the immortal Micawber for something to turn up. We must now, though late in the day, be up and doing. The matter is of so much importance I consider that it is for this meeting to decide whether a deputation should not wait on the Colonial Secretary. Letter writing, gentlemen, will I fear do little good. Recollect the great urgency of the case. The District Engineer, I believe, is

not to blame, as he furnished estimates to the Provincial Engineer for repairing the road, but evidently these have been pigeon-holed as up to a few days ago he had heard nothing of them. I will read my resolution, and trust it will bite into your vitals.

The resolution, after certain alterations had been made, was then proposed as follows:—

That this Association protest against the long delay of the P. W. D. in repairing the breaches on our main cart-road caused by the rain of January last. That as absolutely nothing has been done to date to repair these breaches, this Association take prompt and vigorous steps to ask an explanation of the delay and to request that immediate attention be given to the work.

Mr. Box seconded.

THE CHAIRMAN read a letter from the Provincial Engineer in which it was stated that a plan for the necessary repairs was pending approval. It appeared to him that the delay had been caused by the fact that it was necessary, even in emergency cases such as that at present existing, that sanction must be obtained by the Provincial Engineer for the additional expenditure involved before he can take any steps in the matter. He thought it scandalous that a Provincial Engineer was not authorized, in cases of emergency, to take immediate steps and spend money without waiting for plans and specifications to be submitted and approved.—Carried unanimously.

POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS.

Mr. Box proposed that the Postmaster-General be asked to make arrangements so that the Down Night Mails be delivered in Madulkelle during the morning of the same day. He said: In asking you to support this resolution I have few words to say except to give you some information I have gathered of the present unsatisfactory despatch of mails from Up-country. The Down Night Mails arrive in Kandy at 3-30 a.m., and as the runners carrying the mails for Wattagama and Madulkelle leave Kandy at 3 a.m., there is no connection with Up-country and the letters which come to Kandy by the night mail are not delivered in Madulkelle until the following day causing a delay of 24 hours. This delay could be overcome if the mails were delivered by train from Kandy to Wattagama. The mails at present leave Wattagama at 6 a.m. and are due in Madulkelle for delivery at 9 a.m. The 5-45 a.m. train from Kandy arrives at Wattagama at 6.15 a.m., if the Madulkelle bag was made up in Kandy the delivery in Madulkelle would only be put back by about 15 minutes, and I think with this better service it would give greater benefits to all concerned.

Mr. HUNT seconded.

Mr. BLACKLAW supported the resolution and said that the office of his agents being in Nuwara Eliya letters from there took two days to reach Madulkelle owing to the day's delay in Kandy.

Mr. CLARKE moved as an amendment that Mr. Box's resolution be supported providing that it does not interfere with the Colombo mails as at present delivered.

This was seconded by Mr. GREIG and carried.

THE LABOUR QUESTION.

Mr. CLARKE then proposed "That this Association supports the views Mr. Sparling expressed in his letter of March 2nd to the Secretary of State, and urges the Planters' Association to ask Government to abolish the tundu and make all advances irrecoverable." As this resolution appeared to be likely to fall through for want of a

second, the CHAIRMAN said he would second it to enable it to be discussed by the meeting.

Mr. BLACKLAW said: Before supporting the resolution of the honourable and sporting member for Deyanilla I would ask you to consider carefully what you are doing. Recollect that Mr. Sparling—as an individual—without consulting either the Parent Association or the Labour Federation out here, or the London Association at home, takes upon himself the almost un-heard of course of directly addressing the Secretary of State for the Colonies. In his letter he airs his private opinions and instructs the Secretary of State what he should do. The P. A. we know, the Labour Federation we know, the London Association we know, but who is Mr. Sparling? He was planter out here I believe, but was quite unknown in planting politics. Moreover he has been at home a considerable time and his opinion on planting matters will not carry that weight it might otherwise have done. In my opinion should you vote for this resolution you will be administering a snub to our Parent P. A. who have honestly tried to grapple with the labour problem. Mr. Clarke evidently by his support of Mr. Sparling's letter is prepared to scrap all his own advances and those of his kanganies to the coolies and is also quite willing that Government step in and supervise all dealings between superintendent and cooly. Moreover he asks Government to abolish the tundu, thus further asking for Government interference. No doubt we poor superintendents with our present labour troubles are chastised with whips, but take care, gentlemen, that if Government interferes we are not chastised with scorpions. Before giving your vote in favour of this resolution I will ask you to ponder on the points I have raised. With these remarks, gentlemen, I propose that Mr. Clarke's resolution do not receive the support of this Association.

Mr. HORTIN seconded.

Mr. NAPIER said he wished to support a good deal of what Mr. Clarke said. There were a lot of coolies idle simply living on what they could borrow, and he believed that if a large percentage turned out there would be no shortage.

The CHAIRMAN said that something should be done, and he thought that if people went to the Coast for their coolies and local recruiting were made illegal most of their troubles would cease.

Mr. Box: I do not see how you are to regulate the giving out of advances. You could give an advance to Muttusamy and Muttusamy could give it to Meenatchy (Laughter.)

A Voice: You give it straight to Meenatchy, old man. (Laughter.)

The resolution, on being put to the meeting, was lost by a large majority.

MAIN SERVICE.

Mr. CLARKE then proposed: "That the General Manager of C. G. R. be requested to resume the 9-15 a.m. train from Matale on Sundays."

This was seconded by Mr. Blacklaw and carried unanimously.

Mr. NAPIER suggested that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Matale Planters' Association.

The proceedings concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

G. L. H. DOUDNEY,
Hon. Secretary.

URUGALLA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD AT DELPOTONOA STORE
THE 15TH MAY, 1913.

Present :—Messrs. C. F. Broad, J. P. Burke, J. L. Besant (visitor), R. Burke (by proxy), P. C. MacMahon (by proxy), Wyndham, F. Baker.

MOTIONS.

1. That Mr. Wyndham, F. Baker be elected Chairman and Secretary.

Proposer, Mr. C. F. Broad. Seconder, Mr. J. P. Burke.

2. That a vote of thanks be accorded to Mr. P. C. MacMahon for his services in the past.

Proposer, Mr. W. F. Baker. Seconder, Mr. J. P. Burke.

3. That rule 6 of Urugalla Planters' Association Rules be altered to read four to make a quorum.

Proposer, C. F. Broad. Seconder, R. Bruke (by proxy.)

4. That the Kandy representations by Mr. W. F. Baker and Mr. J. P. Burke.

Proposer, Mr. P. C. MacMahon (by proxy). Seconder, Mr. C. F. Broad.

5. That the Urugalla Planters' Association general meeting be held at the old Court House, Urugalla, unless otherwise specified.

Proposed by Mr. W. F. Baker. Seconded by Mr. J. P. Burke.

6. (a) That a letter be written to the Director of Public works to call attention to the bad metalling of the district roads.

(b) That a letter be written to the Rangalla Planters' Association to ask for support.

Proposed by Mr. C. F. Broad. Seconded by Mr. P. C. MacMahon (by proxy).

7. That rule No. 35 be altered, and that annual meeting be deleted and any meeting be substituted.

Proposed by Mr. C. F. Broad. Seconded by Mr. J. P. Burke.

8. That a letter be written to the Government Agent to ask sanction referring to his letter of No. 4113, 26th September, 1912.

9. If the Trolley now running between Rangalla and Kandy could be used by the Urugalla Planters at same rate.

Proposed by Mr. W. F. Baker. Seconded by Mr. C. F. Broad.

NUWARA ELIYA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general Meeting of the Nuwara Eliya District Planters' Association was held at the Hill Club, Nuwara Eliya, on Saturday, 17th May, at 2 p.m. proceeded by a Committee meeting. Mr. E. C. Elliott (Chairman) presided, and other members present were :—Messrs. N. W. Davies, E. H. Mellor, N. Raynor Smith, H. M. Drummond Hay, R. J. Hughes, H. J. Temple, C. L. Tivy, S. F. Greig, and R. F. Meggison (Hon. Secretary).

After the usual preliminaries Hon. Sec. read Resolution from Kelani Valley P. A. *re* Cattle Disease. As no remarks were forthcoming the matter dropped.

UDAPUSSELLAWA RAILWAY.

The Hon. Secretary read resolution from Udupussellawa P. A. *re* Election of a Committee to request General Manager, C. G. R. to furnish figures showing receipts and expenditure on the Nanu-oya-Ragalla Station, with a view to discussing the question of rates.

Resolved :—That the matter be left over as His Excellency the Acting Governor was shortly visiting the District.

THE S. P. C. A.

Mr. H. H. Phelps was nominated as an Hon. Agent of the S. P. C. A. for Nuwara Eliya District.

A NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER.

MR. DRUMMOND HAY was elected a member of the Committee to represent New Galloway, *vice* Mr. L. F. Watkins Baker resigned.

THE NUWARA ELIYA HOSPITAL.

The Hon. Secretary read letters from The P. C. M. O. and also the Hospital Districts Reports, which were as follows :—

VISITORS' REPORT ON BAKER'S WARD.

DEAR SIR—Having visited Baker's ward, on May 14th, I am pleased to report all seems to be well.

TREES that were overhanging the building have now been cut back.

WARDS.—All in good order and well kept.

LINES.—Supply sufficient for the present.

I would suggest a small subscription limited to Rs. 5 a head to be subscribed by willing planters and others in order to supply, from time to time, a few little extras which, if procured, would considerably add to the comfort of patients and the convenience of the nurses. Perhaps I might be allowed to order at discretion and forward amount for payment, by the Hon. Secretary, Nuwara Eliya Planters' Association from the funds subscribed.

(Signed) MAUDE S. CAMPBELL.

Baker's Farm, 17th May, 1913.

REPORT OF A VISIT TO THE NUWARA ELIYA HOSPITAL ON 7TH MAY, 1913.

I visited the Nuwara Eliya Hospital on Wednesday, the 7th May, at 10 a.m., no notice of my intention to do so being given beforehand. After thoroughly inspecting the wards, kitchen, latrines and surroundings, accompanied by the D.M.A. in the absence of the D.M.O. I report as follows :—There were 56 patients in the hospital on this date, which I understand is considerably below the average. The wards were clean and tidy, and no patient made any complaint. The kitchen was neither clean nor fly-proof. The walls were exceedingly grimy due largely to the incorrect use of the stove by the cook, who appears to fill the furnace so full of wood that the smoke cannot escape through the chimney and much of it accordingly finds its way into the kitchen, I drew the attention of the D.M.A. to this point. The arrangement for rendering the kitchen

fly-proof are described by the P.C.M.O. as "better than nothing," and I am prepared to agree with him to the extent of estimating the number of flies imprisoned in the kitchen at 25 per cent less than the numbers in the passages leading to it, but as a sanitary precaution the attempt to render this kitchen fly-proof may be considered a complete failure and the money spent thereon wasted. The latrines were clean and freely disinfected. The new wards, each containing sixteen beds, are being built and will shortly be completed. When ready for occupation, two wards in the main building are to be handed over for administration purposes, the present accommodation in this respect being inadequate. By this arrangement there will be a nett gain of some 10 or 12 beds. The grounds facing the Government cart road are in rather a neglected condition, but this is said to be unavoidable at present owing to the building operations now in progress. The only apparatus that appears to be urgently required is a soft stomach tube, that in use now being too hard for use in certain classes of cases.

(Signed) E. C. ELLIOTT.

The Chairman asked what the feeling of the meeting was regarding a small subscription.

Mr. N. W. Davis said they should thank Mrs. Campbell for her suggestion. He suggested that they should approach Government and make out a strong case to make the Planters' Ward more comfortable. The speaker commented on the fly-proof arrangement at the Hospital, and thought the Association should express its feeling to the Colonial Secretary.

Some considerable discussion followed.

The following resolution, proposed by Mr. H. M. Drummond Hay and seconded by Mr. H. W. Davies was carried unanimously.

"That the Hon'ble the Colonial Secretary be written to, to the effect that it is the opinion of this meeting that the present fly-proof arrangements are not "better than nothing" as mentioned by the P.C.M.O., and that they should be improved; also that the 43 Block of Latrines should be replaced if it is not possible to put it in order."

A BEER SHOP FOR HAWA ELIYA.

The Hon. SECRETARY read a communication from the A. G. A. Nuwara Eliya, requesting the views of the Association in regard to an application from the Ceylon Brewery to establish a beer shop at Hawa Eliya.

RANGALA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

GENERAL COMMITTEE.

A General Meeting of the above Association was held at Ferndale Drill Shed on Thursday, 29th May, 1913, at 2 p.m.

Present :—The Hon. Mr. William Sinclair, Messrs. Ellis, Kerr, Clay Johnstone, Boucher, Lindsay-White, and J. Hall Brown, Chairman and Secretary.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Read letter from the Colonial Secretary appointing the Hon. Mr. William Sinclair as visitor to the Teldeniya Hospital for 1913.

Read letter from the Government Agent *re* lawlessness in the Rangala District.

Read letters from the Hon. Secretary, Punduloya Planters' Association *re* the prosecution of coolies giving false information at Ragama.

Resolved that in view of the Attorney General's decision on the matter it was unnecessary to discuss it.

Read letters and notices from Government Agent *re* Toddy Taverns at Urugalla, Waradiwala, Pallegage.

Resolved that in the opinion of this Association taverns at Waradiwala and Pallegage are unnecessary, and that of the two the one at Pallegage is the most desirable.

Read letters from the Secretary, Planters' Association enclosing a copy of a letter from Colonial Secretary *re* Cardamom Theft Ordinance and the Chairman's reply.

Resolved to leave the matter in the hands of the Rural Member.

Read letter from Secretary, Planters' Association *re* a resolution passed by the Committee of Agricultural experiments *re* plant pests.

Resolved that the compulsory proclamation of plant pests on individual estates was desirable.

Read letter from Mr. Shand *re* Kandy Cemeteries. The Chairman intimated the fact that he was willing to receive subscriptions which were limited to Five Rupees.

Read letters from Hon. Secretary Kelani Valley Planters' Association *re* a Recruiting Agency in the coast. The resolution was supported unanimously.

DISTRICT TELEPHONES.

The Chairman apologized to Mr. Kerr for the exchange not having been moved from the Ferndale rice store, but said that the work had been commenced that day. The Chairman asked for permission to write to Mr. Collett and to thank him for all the trouble he had taken and all he had done for us in the face of great difficulties.

Mr. Kerr objected as he said that there had been great delay, and that he considered the exchange board supplied to the Ferndale exchange was unsuitable. The Chairman remarked that he had seen the exchange boards supplied to the Madulkelle district by Government and others and that he was of the opinion that the board supplied by Mr. Collett was in every way just as good and had some advantages which the others had not. Permission to write and thank Mr. Collett was eventually granted by 7 to 1 votes. The Chairman reminded members that the charge of 15 cents for telephoned telegrams was now off and that we had to thank Mr. Rosling for the very able way in which he had argued the matter out for us.

DISTRICT ROADS.

Read letter from the Government Agent *re* the Udispattu and Rangalla road. Mr. Sinclair promised to go and see the G. A. on the matter.

Read letters from the G. A. *re* a wire bridge over the Heeloya on the Angroowella Vernacular school road. Mr. Lindsay-White promised to endeavour to get the work completed this year.

The Chairman then spoke to the resolution standing in his name :—"That the D. of P.W.'s attention be drawn to the unsuitable metal now being applied to all the roads in the district, and to point out to him that should the roads break down it will be unfair to attribute their failure to the Motor Lorry if unsuitable material has been employed in their maintenance."

He pointed out that from many years of experience we knew how much damage the bullock cart did to our roads so long as good work was put in and good material used. Some of the P.W.D. we know are against the use of Motor Lorries on Up-country roads, as they say they will do more damage than the iron shod bullock and iron tyred wheels of the carts. Whether this is so or not had to be proved, but the experiment had to be carried out under fair conditions and it was up to them to see that good work was done and good material used on the roads.

He said that he had a letter there from the District Engineer who was very much in favour of Motor Lorries and would appreciate any one reporting to him the fact of bad work being done or bad material being used.

Mr. Kerr said that he had made a point of looking at the metal all along the Kandy-Rangalla road the last time he came out.

He said some of it was good, but most of it was mixed with bad brown stone which could not possibly last.

He said the metal between the 7th and 10th milestone was especially noticeable. The Hon. Mr. Sinclair said that the main point was that the whole question of Motor traction for the Island rested with the success or otherwise of the experimental lorry now running in the district and he had been asked by the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce to do all in our power to make it a success.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

MOTOR TRACTION.

The Chairman pointed out that at their last meeting vague rumours were about that a Motor Lorry had arrived in the Island, but its whereabouts was unknown. Since then as they all knew the Motor Lorry had arrived in the district and had been doing very satisfactory work now for about a month. He asked them to pass a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Sinclair for all he had done in the matter.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. Ellis then spoke to the following resolution which stood in his name:—

1. That this Association do form a local Federation agreeing not to take on the coolies from other estates in this district except by request of the Superintendent paying off.
2. That the Honorary Secretary be requested to write to all other District Associations inviting them to join us in our agreement.
3. That in issuing Tundus to kangaries wishing to leave their employment, the number of coolies in his gang be not mentioned, but only the kangaries name and the amount of his debt.

He could however get no seconder so the matter was dropped.

The Chairman however thought it was the duty of every gentleman to write to his neighbours before taking on his coolies, in fact he saw no reason why the custom, which at one time was universal, should not again extend all over the Island. He also remarked that the Proprietors' Labour Federation was having its last run, and that it was only fair to give it a clear and open field.

He urged upon all members to join the Federation as he said that if from 75 to 80 per cent. joined their labour

troubles would soon be at an end if the rules of the Federation were loyally kept.

Mr. Sinclair in a few words also urged all members to join the Federation.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the meeting.

(Signed) J. STEEL BROWN,
Chairman & Hon. Secretary.

MORAWAK KORALE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the above Association was held at the Deniyaya Resthouse on June 4th. Present:—Messrs. M. S. Furlong, T. W. Oliver, E. C. Anderson, D. M. Rajapakse, W. A. Anderson, W. A. Elwell, and W. M. Wade-Grey (Chairman and Hon. Secretary).

CORRESPONDENCE.

Read letter from Secretary, P. A., re appointment of Deputy Ceylon Labour Commissioner. Resolved:—“That the application received for the post be retained for submission to the Coast Agency Committee on the 11th July. Read letter from the Colonial Secretary, notifying that Messrs. W. A. Anderson, and W. M. Wade-Grey have been appointed visitors to the Deniyaya Hospital for 1913. Read letter from the Secretary P. A. re “Plant Pests.” Read letter from the Matale P. A. re “Cooly Debts.” Read letter from the Secretary P. A. re Rule XV. of the Planters' Association of Ceylon.

SUGGESTED CARDAMOM THEFTS PREVENTION ORDINANCE.

Read letter from Secretary P. A. re Cardamom Thefts. Resolved:—That it is the opinion of this Association that the Ordinance in question should include any kind of cardamoms in any form of condition.

JURY SERVICE.

THE “TIMES OF CEYLON” SUGGESTION.

Mr. E. C. ANDERSON proposed, and Mr. W. A. ELWELL seconded, the following the resolutions: (1) That Government be again approached on the subject of excessive Jury Service as suffered by most members of this Association, (2) That the matter be referred to a Committee, with full powers to deal with same.

It was pointed out that certain members of the Association had at the last sessions, been called on both the Common Jury and the Special Jury, thereby serving on two juries at one session. The resolutions were carried, and a Committee appointed, consisting of Messrs. E. C. Anderson, W. A. Elwell, and the Chairman.

Reference was made to the editorial appearing to the *Times of Ceylon* of the 26th May, and it was finally decided to leave this matter for the Committee to deal with.

The English-speaking jury list of the Matara circuit was brought up for revision, and the revising of same was also left to the Committee.

COACH SERVICE AND LATE ARRIVAL MAILS.

It was mentioned by the member that a paragraph had appeared in one of the local papers stating that the S. P. C. A. Inspector had lately visited and inspected the horses used in the Matara-Deniyaya coach, and that he

(the Inspector) had condemned the whole lot. Resolved:—“That the S. P. C. A. be written to and asked what steps they are taking over the matter. The lateness of the arrival of the coach at Deniyaya and the consequent late delivery of the mails also mentioned. It was pointed out that the mail coach was timed to reach Deniyaya at 5 p.m., but that it seldom reached Deniyaya before 6 p.m. or sometimes 7 p.m.” Resolved:—“That the matter be brought to the notice of the P. M. G. and that he be asked whether he is aware of the fact, and if so, what steps he is taking to rectify same.”

RESTHOUSE.

Mr. E. C. ANDERSON remarked on the present dirty condition of the Deniyaya Resthouse and the bad condition and state of the roads approaching same.

Mr. W. A. ELWELL mentioned that some 2½ years ago, when he was a member of the D. R. C., he pointed out the bad and dangerous condition of the approach steps to the Resthouse. He was then informed that the matter would be attended to.

Mr. ELWELL remarked that the members could see that the steps were at present in exactly the same condition as they were 2½ years ago.

Resolved:—“That the P. R. C. be written to and that the condition of the steps be brought to their notice, and also that they be requested when appointing a new resthouse keeper, in place of the last one, who has lately died, to appoint an efficient and respectable man, and one that knows how to cook, and one who is not a pensioner of some Government official.”

MOTOR TRANSPORT.

The CHAIRMAN said that after the last meeting of the Association, Government had been written to and asked under what conditions motor lorries might be run on the Matara-Deniyaya road, and that the following reply had been received from the Government Agent S. P.

TO THE HON. SECRETARY,
Morawak Korale Planters' Association.

MOTOR LORRIES.

June 2nd, 1913.

Sir,
Referring to your letter of the 28th ultimo, I have the honour to inform you that Government has sanctioned the use of motor lorries on the Matara-Deniyaya road, subject to compliance and regulations dated 4th August, 1910 modified as follows:—Regulation 56 (b) to read:—“The load on any one axle shall not exceed 1½ tons; 56 (c) to read: “The weight of the lorry fully loaded and equipped shall not exceed 2½ tons.”—

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) R. B. HELLINGS,
G.A., S.P.

The CHAIRMAN said that it was satisfactory to note that the use of motor lorries on the road in question had at last been sanctioned by Government, but that to run lorries in compliance with the modified regulations would make motor transport excessive in cost and almost prohibitive.

The matter was freely discussed, and it was pointed out that at present bullock carts were carrying considerably more than 1½ tons per axle, and that it was patent to everybody that the steel tyre on a bullock cart did considerably more damage to the road than a solid rubber tyre which would be used on the lorries. The Chairman

remarked that he doubted if Government really new and grasped the serious condition of the transport difficulties in this district. Foot and mouth disease and rinderpest were constantly recurring, and though neither of them were serious at present, all the estates were waiting for artificial manure which had been lying at Galle and Matara over four months. The cart contractor had informed the members of the Association, that he was with difficulty only managing to transport the rice. What the state of things would be, if either foot and mouth disease or rinderpest broke out, would be impossible to imagine.

REPLY TO GOVERNMENT.

After further discussion, it was resolved:—“That the Colonial Secretary be written to and thanked for the sanction given to run motor lorries under modified regulations, but that it be pointed out that a 2½ ton lorry is totally inadequate for this district, and cost of running same prohibitive, and that Government be asked to reconsider the matter and sanction the running of a larger type of lorry, and that sanction be given for a lorry that will carry a three-ton load and weigh, when fully loaded and equipped, under five tons. That Government be asked what immediate steps are being taken with a view to putting the Matara-Deniyaya road into such a condition that lorries without modified regulations can be run.”

TRANSPORT.

Mr. D. M. RAJAPARSE, the forwarding agent for the district, asked the Association what steps were being taken with regard to his notice, and stated that if the members wished him to continue carting after the expiry of the three months, he prepared to continue same at an increased rate until other arrangements could be made. Asked as to whether he wanted increased rates on goods received by him after the date of expiry of notice, or on carting done after that date, it being pointed out to him that with transport in its present state, he would have at the expiry of the three months' notice, something like 100 to 200 tons of arrears undelivered, he intimated that he was willing that the increased rates should be on goods received by him on or after 1st August, 1913. Asked as to what increase in the rates he wanted, he informed the meeting that he would consider the matter and communicate with the Hon. Secretary.

The meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair.

W. M. WADE-GREY,
Hon. Secretary,
Morawak Korale P. A.

THE DIKOYA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the Dikoya Planters' Association was held on the afternoon of June 5th, 1913, Mr. H. Glyn Eccles presiding. There were also present: Messrs. L. C. Maudslay, H. F. Laycock, M. Elton Lane, S. C. Traill, R. F. Christie, M. L. Wilkins, J. D. Forbes, W. W. Moser, J. H. G. Lang, J. W. M. Playfair, G. F. Sandford, J. R. Neale, E. W. Napper, J. H. Armitage, H. E. Cates, G. F. Clarke, E. Massy, R. D. Kershaw, H. B. Daniell, and H. Gordon Griffin, Hon. Secretary. As visitors

Messrs W. C. Hawkes and Guy V. H. Prideaux. A letter of regret that he could not be present was read from Mr. H. F. C. Phillips.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, the absence of a reporter was commented upon. This had been the case at the two previous meetings, and Mr. H. F. Laycock, while proposing a vote of thanks to the Hon. Secretary, also proposed that the minutes of meetings when no reporter from the local press was present should be sent for publication to the *Planting Gazette* only. This motion was seconded by Mr. H. B. DANIELL and carried *nem con*.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

In view of the fact that Mr. E. M. Wyatt had already left the Island and Mr. H. F. C. Phillips was on the point of doing so, the Chairman proposed the names of Messrs. J. D. Forbes and G. H. Sparkes, as new members of the Committee, and they were unanimously elected.

A resolution which had been carried at a Committee meeting of the Association held on April 29th was then read, namely, that "That the Dikoya Planters' Association record with appreciation the services rendered by the Hon. Mr. Edward Rosling to the Planting and public interests in Ceylon."

CONGRATULATIONS TO SIR E. ROSLING.

In view of the recent honour which has been lately conferred upon Sir Edward Rosling, the Chairman here brought forward another motion: "That this Association congratulate Sir Edward Rosling, Kt., on the honour which has been bestowed upon him." This met with unanimous support and was forwarded to the Parent Association for transmission.

Papers relating to the London School of Tropical Medicine were placed upon the table.

APPOINTMENT OF J. P., U.P.M.

A letter was read from the Government Agent, Central Province, stating that Mr. G. F. Clarke of Bogawantalawa had been appointed J.P. for the revenue district of Kandy and U.P.M. for the judicial district of Nuwara Eliya.

KANDY CEMETERIES.

Correspondence re the Kandy Cemeteries was brought forward, and a letter from Mr. P. R. Shand was read as follows:—

Coolbawn,
Nawalapitiya, 10th May, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Dikoya, Planters' Association.

Dear Sir,

Since my letter of 3rd March, was written, a copy of which I enclose, the Kandy Cemeteries' Committee has been doing its best to find out how much Government will do towards putting both Cemeteries in better order, and the Committee proposes at once to begin and get the grave-stones that require it put in better order. So far the only subscriptions that have been paid in have been in response to my appeal to the P. A. Committee. Will you kindly air the matter in your Association, and give those who wish it a chance of subscribing? The subscription is limited to Rs. 5. The repairs required to the wall, &c., of the Garrison Cemetery have been estimated for by the P.W.D., "and the matter is to be placed before Government and the Military authorities, as there

is some doubt as to the Department which should carry out the work and maintain the place." This was the position on 22nd ultimo, and is all I have to report at present.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) P. R. SHAND.

Mr. H. F. LAYCOCK said that he heartily supported Mr. Shand's appeal, and pointed out that the cemeteries were in a disreputable condition and sadly in need of attention and repair.

A list for subscriptions was circulated and a sum of Rs. 50 was subscribed.

PLANT PESTS.

The circular letters with regard to plant pests which have already been published were read.

This matter came in for a good deal of discussion, and Mr. Wilkins, as a member of the Committee of Agricultural Experiments, was called upon for information. He pointed out that the Plant Pests Ordinance was a dead letter and that no action was ever taken in the matter of proclaiming pests. In the case of Shot-hole borer the matter had been thoroughly investigated, and from enquiries he had made he had ascertained that little or nothing could be done to check this pest on estates where it had already got a hold. Cultivation was, he considered, the only possible means of ameliorating matters. Shot-hole borers had spread to an alarming extent during the past few years, and was already becoming a serious menace in districts where till quite recently it was unknown. He was in favour of the formation of a Pest Committee.

Mr. GRIFFIN asked if there was not already some enactment which made it an offence to import tea plants from pest-ridden areas. He pointed out that, whereas the Shot-hole borer had at one time only been known in an area of fifty acres, it now extended over fifty thousand. It was already known in the lower end of Ambegamuwa, and it was necessary that the most stringent precautions should be taken to prevent its spreading to their own district which was as yet untouched. The only way to do this was to make it compulsory to proclaim pest-ridden areas and to make it a punishable offence to introduce plants from such place.

Mr. LAYCOCK here proposed that the meeting should give its support to the resolution forwarded by the Director of Agriculture.

THE RURAL ELECTORATE.

A letter was read bringing to the notice of all District Associations rule 15 of the Planters' Association of Ceylon and requesting that the names of voters of each individual estate should be sent into the Secretary, P. A., annually. The Hon. Secretary had already issued post cards asking members of the Dikoya Association to send in these names, and gave notice that he would be glad to have them at an early date. He also gave notice that the following estate subscriptions to the Association had not yet been received:—Darrowella, Blair Athol, Bridwell, Lynford, Poyston, Ireby, Kotiyagalla, and South Wanarajah.

VETERINARY SURGEON WANTED.

The following resolution forwarded by the Maskeliya Planters' Association was then read and met with unanimous support:—

That this Association ask Government whether they could see their way to appoint a fully qualified Veterinary Surgeon as Stock Inspector to be stationed at Hatton.

D. M. A.'s HORSE ALLOWANCE.

Correspondence *re* the horse allowance to the D. M. A. was then read as follows:—

Venture,
Norwood, 8th May.

FROM THE HON. SECRETARY,
Dikoya Planters' Association, to the P. C. M. O.

Sir,
At a Committee meeting of my Association held at Darrawella on April 20th, I was instructed to write to you on the subject of the horse allowance which is made to the D. M. A. of the Dikoya district. The D. M. A. does not keep a horse, but it is believed draws the allowance. My Committee submit that the work in some parts of the district is of such a nature that it cannot be satisfactorily or expeditiously performed without the use of a horse. They would urge that the D. M. A. be directed to use the allowance which is made to him for the purpose of keeping a hack suitable to the need of the district.

I remain, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) H. GORDON GRIFFIN,
Hon. Secretary, D. P. A.

Colombo, 9th May, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Dikoya Planters' Association,
Dikoya.

ALLOWANCE OF DISTRICT MEDICAL ASSISTANT, DIKOYA.

Sir,
With reference to your letter dated the 8th instant, I have the honour to inform you that the allowance of Rs. 540 per annum paid at present to District Medical Assistant, Dikoya, is a commuted travelling allowance.

2. A copy of your letter will be forwarded to Provincial Surgeon, Kandy, asking him to report if the District Medical Assistant cannot keep a horse for his travelling duties.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) G. J. RUTHERFORD,
Acting P. C. M. O. & I. G. H.

Venture, Norwood, 20th May.

FROM THE HON. SECRETARY,
Dikoya P. A., Dikoya, to P. C. M. O.,
Colombo.

Sir,
I have the honour to acknowledge your letter of the 9th instant, and thank you for the information therein conveyed. I am now instructed to await the communication from the Provincial Surgeon, Kandy, before pressing the matter further.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) H. GORDON GRIFFIN,
Hon. Secretary, D. P. A.

GLENCAIRN HOSPITAL.

The report on Glencairn Hospital was brought to the notice of the meeting, and a vote of thanks to Mr. Kershaw as hospital visitor was proposed:—

Blair Athol,
Dikoya, 4th June, 1913.

REPORT ON GLENCAIRN HOSPITAL.

Visited on the 13th March, 16th April, and 8th May. The number of patients on dates of my visits was:—13th March, males 42, females 30, total 72; 16th April, males 35, females 38,

total 73; 8th May, males 34, females 17, total 51. Wards: very clean; latrines: very clean; bathrooms: very clean; staff: sufficient on date of my visit; complaints, none; food, satisfactory; grounds, in good order; remarks, since my last visit Dr. Suppiah has been appointed as D. M. A.

(Signed) R. D. KERSHAW,
H. V.

NORWOOD ARRACK TAVERN.

It was considered unnecessary to read the correspondence *re* the Norwood Arrack Tavern in view of the fact that greater part of it had already been published, but the CHAIRMAN gave a *resume* of matters up to date. He pointed out that most of the members would have read in the local papers the correspondence between the P. A. and Government about the proposed tavern. The position he considered, is at present by no means satisfactory, and he informed the meeting that the Association was still in touch with the Parent Association on the subject and intended to fight the proposal to a proper termination. Representations had been made by the proprietors of Norwood Estate against Government forcibly acquiring land for the tavern, as they were unable voluntarily to offer a site and were unwilling that a tavern should be established on their property. This view was held by the neighbouring estates, and the general opinion of the district and members of Committee was that the taverns at Hatton and Kotiyagalla were sufficient for the legitimate needs of the locality. In the event of a new tavern being opened in Maskeliya on Glentilt this again lessened the supposed need for one at Norwood. He regretted that Mr. Huyshe Eliot was not present to again express his disapproval of the proposal, but it was well known that his views were strongly in opposition. It had been decided to send a deputation to meet the Officer Administering the Government on this matter, and he, as Chairman, was representing the Association, while Messrs. Eliot and Laycock had been chosen to represent proprietary and planting interests, respectively.

Norwood, 5th May.

WARLEIGH BRIDGE.

Dear Sir,

I am in receipt of a Bill for Rs. 414-68 from Messrs. Walker and Greig, of Dikoya, this being the cost of the repairs of the Warleigh Bridge recently executed. I see that in a letter addressed to my Association on the 12th January, 1912, the District Road Committee voted a sum of Rs. 123-34 towards these repairs provided the Maskeliya, Dikoya Planters' Association paid the balance as they did in 1903 and 1909. I shall be glad if you will ask your Association to show this year's balance with the Dikoya Association as they did previously.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) H. GORDON GRIFFIN,
Hon. Secretary, D. P. A.

Norwood, 27th May, 1913.

Dear Sir,

Your letter dated May 5th, 1913, was read at a meeting of above Association held on the 7th instant, when I was instructed to send you the sum of Rs. 146 towards repairs to Warleigh Bridge. I enclose a cheque for this amount.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) C. B. PRETTEJOHN,
Hon. Secretary, M. P. A.

DISTRICT ROADS AND BRIDGES.

The following correspondence *re* the repairs to Warleigh Bridge was read, and it was decided to write to those superintendents who used the bridge or were otherwise interested in it that they might defray the balance of Rs. 145. (No. 8 and No. 9.)

Letters *re* the Osborne Bridge and the Wanarajah Bridge, new and old, were read:—(No. 10, No. 11, No. 12, No. 13 and No. 14.)

A letter was read complaining of the condition of the bridges in the riding path through New Valley, Gorthie and Glencairn estates. Mr. Massy states that the bridge on his estate was already under repair, and it was decided to write to other superintendents interested and call their attention to the matter.

OSBORNE BRIDGE.

District Road Committee,

Kandy, 15th March, 1913.

H. GORDON GRIFFIN, ESQ.,

Hon. Secretary,

Dikoya, Planters' Association.

Sir,

The Committee has no objection to devoting the unexpended balances (Rs. 240) of grants to inter-district roads for 1912 to the repairs of the above bridge.

2. The total amount, viz., Rs. 425 will be therefore paid by this Committee, and the superintendent of Lethenty estate should be requested to take the necessary steps as early as possible for the repair of the bridge.

3. The superintendent of minor roads has been instructed to forward the necessary timber direct to the Hatton station.

4. A copy of the estimate is forwarded herewith.

5. Kindly report date of completion of the work.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

(Signed) W. J. L. ROGERSON,

for G. S. SAXTON,

Chairman.

Norwood, 1st May.

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS,

Colombo.

Dear Sir,

I am instructed by my Association to make enquiries as to the ultimate fate of the old Wanarajah bridge after the new bridge has been opened. They would suggest that the old bridge be left standing and open to traffic for two reasons, viz.:—

1. That the nature of the soil through which the cutting for the approach to the new bridge is being made is such that a landslip may occur during the heavy rains and the district be entirely cut off in consequence.

2. That it would be exceedingly useful for light traffic.

While submitting this suggestion my Association trust that arrangements have not yet been made for the disposal of the old bridge.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) H. GORDON GRIFFIN,

Hon. Secretary, D. P. A.

Colombo, 15th May.

Sir,

With reference to your letter dated the 1st instant, I have the honour to inform you that it is not intended to remove the old Wanarajah bridge.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

(Signed) T. H. CHAPMAN,

Acting Director of Public Works.

(Signed) HAROLD T. CREASY,

Acting Deputy D. P. W.

22nd February.

TO THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS,

Colombo.

Dear Sir,

I shall be much obliged if you will kindly favour me with any information in reply to the following queries:—

a. Approximate date the new bridge at Wanarajah will be built and opened to the public.

b. Whether light motor lorries may be used over the existing bridge now, and during the time of construction of the new bridge and roadway.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) H. G. ECCLES,

Chairman, D. P. A.

Colombo, 31st March.

Sir,

With reference to your letter dated 22nd February I have the honour to inform you that it is anticipated the new bridge at Wanarajah will be completed and opened to traffic during the current year.

2. The existing bridge is considered safe for light motor lorries. As to the use of lorries on the road your attention is invited to the Motor Lorry Regulations dated August 4th, 1910.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

(Signed) FRANCIS A. COOPER,

Director of Public Works.

MINOR ROADS.

The question of minor road grants was then raised, and correspondence was read.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the letter from the D. R. C. was certainly interesting in as much as it showed their financial position, but said that the Chairman of that Committee had evaded the point of the Dikoya Association's resolution. As far as he could remember no one suggested that the D. R. C. should increase this vote or that the private contribution of Rs. 900 should be added to this grant of Rs. 900 and Rs. 1,800 be handed over unconditionally. He believed in the idea that the Association's application for Rs. 900 should be granted to the care of the Association, and applicants should still be asked to give a moiety towards any road if the estate applying reaped any advantage from such expenditure. He thought it would be for the Association to decide—possibly by a sub-Committee—to what extent the particular property or properties should contribute. As an example he pointed out that he made an application annually for Rs. 25 for two roads—Claverton-Nyanza and Lethenty-Marlborough, and as these highways are not only of importance to the public, but they are also main thoroughfares through his estates, so that he raised no objection to contributing a like sum in labour for this maintenance. On the other hand, if the road from the church to the Maskeliya Gap is considered for which Rs. 134 is applied, this road is the chief route for all Government traffic between Hatton and Maskeliya. Thousands of pilgrims tread this path annually. Can it be an equitable arrangement that Warleigh and Gorthie estates should be called upon to pay Rs. 135 between them?

The CHAIRMAN, D. R. C., made a point of the small returns by the road tax. Surely this is not to be wondered at considering the low population liable. Taxes from the

Local Boards and sanitary towns are not paid to the D. R. C., and many Sinhalese such as carpenters, carters, etc., prefer to pay their taxes in their own villages.

Mr. LAYCOCK said that he had been responsible for the resolution in the first place, and that he, therefore, wished to press it harder and would continue to do so. He was of an opinion that the Chairman, D. R. C. had evaded the point which was that the grants should remain the same, but that they should be given unconditionally. Many superintendents now refuse to apply for a grant because they are not interested in the road which they might otherwise keep up with a small grant given by the D. R. C. unconditionally.

Mr. GRIFFIN here brought forward a proposal that a member of the Association be sent to meet the members of the D. R. C. at the earliest opportunity. This was seconded by Mr. KERSHAW and carried *men con.* Mr. Huyshe Eliot was chosen for this mission.

The CHAIRMAN gave notice that this year's application for grants had been approved by the D. R. C.

GRANTS TO INTER-DISTRICT ROADS.
District Road Committee,
Kandy, 26th February, 1913.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 8th instant, I have the honour to remark that you have planting representatives on his Committee to whom complaints might properly be directed.

2. I have said the minutes of your meeting, and feel sure that complaints are the result of want of knowledge of the resources and detailed working of the Committee. We are not the Government to start with. Our income is $\frac{1}{4}$ of the road tax collected. We also get occasional special votes from Government. The other $\frac{3}{4}$ goes to main roads, rest houses, and general expenses.

3. The system of votes for planting roads so called is not one of five years standing. I have known it long before that. The principle is that we will help those who help themselves, and if any individual or association will come forward with a vote of labour the road Committee will endeavour to meet them with assistance.

4. We have with our slender means to keep up 87 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles of cart road, 132 miles of bridle paths, etc., and have calls for votes on all sides.

5. Our income in 1892 was Rs. 14,000. In 1912 it was Rs. 18,000. We do not get the road tax from Local Boards or Sanitary towns, such as Hatton, Kotiyagala and Norwood, etc. The income is nowhere near the profit of dozens of individual estates in this Province.

6. The amount collected by estates in the whole Kandy districts last year was Rs. 7,394. Of this we get one quarter, i.e., Rs. 1,848. But on the principle mentioned above we gave last year Rs. 4,845 to these estate road. Surely this is a generous portion out of Rs. 18,000.

To take your district particularly, Dickoya sent us in road tax last year Rs. 1,363.50, Maskeliya Rs. 693—2,065 of which this Committee gets one quarter, i.e., Rs. 514. We voted to

Dickoya Planters' Association	Rs. 900
Maskeliya Planters' Association	„ 365
Bogawantalawa to Horton Plains Road	„ 200
Laxapana-Dalhousie Road	„ 500
	Rs. 1,955

I feel sure that when your Association know of these figures this resolution of protest will be changed to an admission that we cannot do more with our means than we do.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) G. S. SEXTON,
Chairman.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Dickoya Planters' Association.

Kandy, May 22nd.

Dear Sir,

I must apologise for the delay in attending to your request regarding "Grants to District Roads." I have now seen all the correspondence in the Kachcheri. As a member of the District Road Committee I am unable to agree with your resolution forwarded to the Chairman District Road Committee, in your letter of the 8th February. The arrangement at present in practice of paying, up to a certain limit an amount equal to that expended by the interested estates appears to me perfectly fair and equitable. In 1912 a sum of Rs. 900 was voted for the roads kept in repair by members of your Association, and was available on condition that a like amount was expended on your side. That the condition was only partly fulfilled in not the fault of the District Road Committee.

The Chairmen of the District Road Committee has pointed out in paragraph 7 of his letter No. 300/273 of the 25th February, 1913, addressed to you, that while the amount voted in 1912 to the Dickoya and Maskeliya Planters' Association was Rs. 1,955 the District Road Committee only received Rs. 514 as its share of the road tax paid by those districts.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) JOHN STILL,
Secretary, Planters' Association of Ceylon.

MECHANICAL TRANSPORT.

The CHAIRMAN informed the meeting that a sub-Committee meeting of the Dickoya and Maskeliya Associations had met to discuss this matter and that negotiations were proceeding. Correspondence on the subject was read as follows and Messrs. Böhringers' papers were placed on the table.

Norwood, May 9th.

The Hon'ble
THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
Colombo.

Sir,

I am instructed to ask if Government would kindly furnish us with an estimate of the expense which would be incurred in putting the Imperial and Grant-in-Aid roads of these two districts in suitable order for motor lorry traffic by metalling the grass every one-eighth of a mile, thereby widening the road to 14 feet and that motor lorries could then pass one another. My Committee submit that this scheme would be eminently practical and not very expensive. I append a list of the Grant-in-Aid sections of roads in the Maskeliya-Dickoya district.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) H. GORDON GRIFFIN,
Hon. Secretary, D.P.A.

LABOUR.

The resolution on this subject which had been passed by the Matale P. A. and which had already been discussed in the Parent Association was here brought forward, and it was decided to file the letter from the Matale P. A. for future reference.

The circular letter (already published) from the Kelani Valley P.A. was read together with a resolution which was much discussed.

Mr. WILKINS asked if this was irrespective of the present kangany system of recruiting. He said that the Straits had created the Tulcan professional recruiter, but when they had got labour they dropped the professional recruiter and our own kanganyes fell into the trap and sent about through these men. He gave instances of the

difficulties of recruiting other than by the genuine kangani system. One in particular of a certain Superintendent, whose method enabled him to get a batch over consisting of barbers, nautch girls and rickshaw coolies, all of whom had their uses of course but were hardly suited to the Superintendent's needs. In his opinion the old system of kangani recruiting was good. They recruited by villages and relations, and that was the most efficient way. If the Kelani Valley resolution meant to support professional recruiting then he would propose that it be rejected.

MR. ELTON LANE admitted that recruiting through native professional recruiters was undesirable, but saw no reason to suppose that recruiting by white men should not be a success. Let them go further afield. That was in his opinion the only way of solving the difficulty. An efficient European staff by keeping touch with the relations of coolies and the places they came from should do well.

MR. TRAILL was in favour of a recruiting agency formed in connection with the present Coast Agency.

MR. LAYCOCK thought they should know more about the lines on which the Kelani Valley P.A. proposed to act. There were not sufficient data in the wording of the resolution. What were Mr. Scoble Nicholson's views on the subject? Was he in favour of its being run in connection with the Coast Agency? It would be premature to support the resolution until we knew on what lines the proposed Agency was to be run.

It was decided to write to the K.V.P.A. and say that owing to insufficiency of facts and intentions the Dikoya Association was at present not able to support the resolution.

TELEPHONES.

The following letters were read on this subject, Mr. Laycock pointing out that the work on the district lines had already commenced:—

Bridge Bungalow,
Norwood, February 15th, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Dikoya Planters' Association.

Dear Sir,

I have to thank you for your letter and the Dikoya P.A. for the resolution passed at the meeting on February 6th. I have also received a letter from Mr. Brebner explaining that the real meaning of his letter was not what it seemed at first sight to convey. In this connection, however, I might point out that I have been fully aware that the delays in erection might well appear unreasonable to those who were unacquainted with the difficulties that have from time to time arisen. Under the circumstances I shall be pleased to continue in the Secretaryship, at least until the erection of the entire system is complete. Again thanking the P.A. for the generous terms of their resolution.

Believe me,
Yours faithfully,
(Signed) S. B. STEDMAN.

New Estate, Norwood,
February 14th, 1913.

Dear Griffin,

Thanks for bringing to my notice the resolution. Resolved: That the Hon. Secretary, Districts Telephones, be requested to reconsider his resignation, and "at the same time this Association would ask Mr. Brebner to withdraw his letter which they consider uncalled for.

The Hon. Secretary, District Telephones, and the Dikoya Planters' Association quite misinterpret my letter. I wrote the letter to Mr. Stedman. It was the wretched Ceylon Government I thought the Association might get at. "The Govern-

ment have run out of instruments." The authorities will commence the trunk line between Norwood and Hatton when the staff have time, etc., etc. A Bogawantalawa telephone is very little use if one cannot communicate with Norwood, Glencairn, and Hatton. I most sincerely apologise to Mr. Stedman whom I think should receive a handsome presentation for all the trouble he has taken. My letter should have read "To me it seems absolutely disgraceful the dilatory way in which things are being done by the Ceylon Government, etc., etc."

P. S.—A copy to Mr. Wyatt, Mr. Stedman and Mr. Eccles.

Yours Sincerely,

(Signed) D. G. BREBNER.

April 13th.

THE SUPERINTENDENT OF TELEGRAPHS,
Colombo.

Dear Sir,

I have to thank you for your letter of 10th in regard to trunk line for Inter-district Telephones. I note that the constructing staff is at present engaged in the Dimbula District, but shall be glad to have the assurance to lay before my Association at the next meeting of members, that you can undertake the linking up of the Hatton, Norwood, Bogawantalawa, Maskeliya system on completion of the Talawakelle line.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) H. G. ECCLES.

April 16th.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that I can certainly promise that as soon as the Talawakelle-Agrapatna line is finished, the men will be transferred to Hatton and will make a start on the Dikoya district lines. This will probably be in one month's time, and providing there is no delay in the delivery of the necessary posts from England, it will not take very long to carry out the work.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) G. MCALPINE.

The resolution from the Maskeliya P.A. was then read:—

That in the opinion of this Association the present platform and waiting room accommodation at Hatton station is totally inadequate, and that the lack of organization and state of the buildings and surroundings which are for the most part kept in a most insanitary condition call for a strong vote of protest.

MR. TRAILL spoke at some length on the disgraceful state of affairs at the Hatton station. He condemned, in particular, the rush of coolies who are allowed to hustle and push on the platform quite indiscriminately much to the annoyance of first-class passengers and ladies in particular. There was no system, no organization, and the present staff was totally inadequate.

MR. LAYCOCK supported Mr. Traill, and said that this state of affairs had only arisen recently. That under the former stationmaster, Mr. Cassie Chetty, the organisation and control was good, but that it was now very bad.

MR. MAUDSLAY related an experience with a so-called outside porter and pointed out the facilities afforded for theft under the present state of affairs. He proposed that all coolies engaged as outside porters to work on or in the precincts of the station be compelled to wear a distinguishing badge. This was carried unanimously, and it was

further decided to support the Maskeliya Association's resolution and to write to the General Manager, C. G. R., notifying our intentions of doing so.

A vote of thanks to the chair terminated the proceedings.

(Signed) H. GORDON GRIFFIN,
Hon. Secretary, D.P.A.

BADULLA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of the Badulla Planters' Association was held on Saturday, June 21st, at the Town Hall at 10.30 a.m. Mr. T. G. Elliott presided and those present included Messrs. C. S. Peter, J. W. Scott, W. G. B. Dickson, A. E. Peter, C. Way, G. E. Burney, E. P. Andrews, T. B. Coombe, R. McDonald Sutor, Robert Stewart, George Stewart, H. Walter, L. Archdale, N. F. Palmer, J. R. Lee Booker, Charles Murlaud, Mudaliyar A. I. Jainudeen, James Duncan, G. A. Rettie, R. B. Jamieson, J. H. Titterington, R. Gatehouse, A. T. Rettie, W. Rettie (Hon. Secretary), and A. E. Ogilvy.

HOSPITAL VISITORS' REPORT.

At time of visit the Hospital attendants were Dr. Ludovici, the matron, 2 nurses, 2 dispensers.

PATIENTS.—The number of patients in hospital were 69 males and 58 females.

MORTALITY.—The average deaths per 1,000 in 1912 was 14, chiefly due to dysentery and fever.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.—The available bed accommodations is as follows:—Main wards 92 beds, new ward 36, besides Police ward, Convalescent ward, Planters' ward. We think the general condition of the hospital, its cleanliness, the discipline, and the smart appearance of its staff reflects the greatest credit on the officials responsible for its efficiency.

KITCHEN.—We found the kitchen clean and the food abundant and of good quality.

MILK.—Dr. Ludovici regretted that his duty compelled him to make complaints about the quality of the milk at present being supplied to hospital. He reports that "whereas two months ago the percentage of cream in the morning milk was on an average 8 per cent. to 10 per cent. and sometimes much more, it now sometimes shows 3 to 3½ per cent."

EMETINE.—Sufficient emetine is kept in stock for hospital use only. No emetine can at present be supplied to estates, and although they can purchase this themselves, we strongly recommend that this remedy should be supplied in sufficient quantity and be made available for all estates. Dr. VanRooyen desires to inform the Association that he will gladly instruct any estate dispenser in the method of emetine.

We would make the following recommendation—Remarks:

OPERATING ROOMS.—This addition appears to be an ideal room. The doctor urges that the present mosquito roofing over the door and window be replaced by fly-proofing, as the ventilation of the room at present is poor.

P. WARD.—This ward is the one in which all dysentery patients are treated. On the day of our visit there were a large number of patients in this ward. The ward is completely open to the air and to the flies and the latter were very numerous and active. This ward is situated in close proximity to the kitchen. We strongly recommend that this ward be enclosed with fly-proofing and that the work be proceeded with immediately. As at present constituted it must be a source of danger not only to the inmates of the hospital, but to the community in general.

LATRINES.—We recommend that the latrine walls be cement-plastered four feet from ground floor.

PLANTERS' WARD.—We think the Planters' Ward as at present decorated is a most melancholy place. We are informed by the doctor that he has had complaints about this from

patients. Six bright and cheerful pictures are required. Mr. Paul recommended that a milk jug, a soap dish, and two chamber pots should be replaced. This has not been done.

The following are required and should be purchased:—One butter dish in white and gold (to match present set), one metal cruet stand, one pudding dish, one reading lamp, also one window curtain. Attached to this report is a list of the new linen which belongs to the planters' ward and which is superfluous, we suggest that members of the Association be invited to purchase the articles and proceeds of sale put to use in planters' ward.

VERANDAH.—The hospital verandah floors are in many places broken and should be repaired. If this work is done at once much expense would be saved later. We would like, in closing our report, to express our appreciation and gratitude to the staff for their assistance, and to Dr. Ludovici for his courtesy in showing us all we desired to inspect.

(Signed) R. McDONALD SUTOR,
" R. GATEHOUSE.

Resolved:—"That the P.C.M.O. be written to and asked to make the necessary alterations to the dysentery ward latrine, operating room, and the verandah, recommended by the unofficial visitors."

HAPUTALE RAILWAY SLIP.

Read letter from the Manager, C.G.R., dated 13th March.

Resolved:—"That this matter be brought before His Excellency the Acting Governor by the deputation to meet His Excellency on Friday, the 27th instant, in common with district communications generally."

MOTOR TRANSPORT.

Read letter from Colonial Secretary stating terms on which private lorries would be permitted on the Bandarawella-Passara road. It was pointed out by the Chairman that it would be advantageous to purchase a uniform type of lorries for all those who propose having their own transport.

UPKEEP OF RESTHOUSES.

Read letter from the Secretary, Haputale Planters' Association, that the Association desires to support the Provincial Road Committee, Uva, in asking for permission to spend more money than the present Ordinance allows on the upkeep of the resthouses in the province.

It was pointed out by the CHAIRMAN that unless this was given several resthouses in the province would have to be closed. The resolution was supported. It was also decided to bring this matter to His Excellency's notice.

KELANI VALLEY P. A. RESOLUTION.

The resolution from the Kelani Valley P. A., that Government be asked to add to their staff of Inspectors and Veterinary Surgeons to better cope with diseases in general, were supported.

NIGHT MAIL FROM BADULLA TO BANDARAWELLA.

Read letter from the P.M.G. The Association regretted the discontinuance of the night mail service from Badulla to Bandarawella and from there to Badulla from 1st July next.

Resolved:—"That the Hon. Secretary do obtain information as to whether a transit company would be prepared to run the night service in place of the present bullock coach."

FLOOD DAMAGES.

Read letter from the Colonial Secretary that everything possible is being done to repair the damage caused to the roads by the recent exceptional heavy rains, and that the Provincial Engineer is being given additional assistance.

Read letter from the Government Agent, Uva, *re* minor forest produce, inquiring if the Association was in favour of a renewal of the prohibition for a further term of the sale of the right to collect shed horns in the district with a view to checking illicit distribution of same.

This was supported.

PLANTERS' BENEVOLENT FUND.

Mr. W. G. B. Dickson was appointed to represent the Association.

CEYLON NURSING HOME.

It was resolved that a donation of Rs. 50 be given the Ceylon Nursing Association for 1913.

ACTING GOVERNOR'S VISIT.

Read letter from the G. A., Uva, informing them of the visit of His Excellency the Acting Governor and inquiring if any members of the Association desire to interview His Excellency. Resolved that a deputation wait on His Excellency to discuss the following matters:—District communications, resthouses, employment of estate labourers on railway extensions, district telephones, and military reservation at Diyatalawa.

The following members were appointed to form the deputation:—Messrs. J. M. Scott, R. Gatehouse, W. G. B. Dickson, James Duncan, A. T. Rettie, T. G. Elliott, and W. J. Rettie.

Read Mr. Wynell Mayow's resolution from the K.V.P.A., forwarded for support.

A discussion ensued, and then Mr. JAMES DUNCAN proposed, seconded by Mr. LEE BOOKER, that this resolution be supported. Mr. Dickson's amendment that this matter be left to the Parent Association to deal with was finally adopted.

Read letter from the Passara Planters' Association: That it be pointed out to Government that the remuneration of villages and town aratchies is totally inadequate to attract sufficiently capable men, and that Government be asked to increase the salaries of headmen to a figure sufficient to procure men of better standing, so that the work be efficiently carried out. A second portion dealt with the question of labour for the construction of the railway. The meeting was not in sympathy with the first portion of the letter *re* payment to headmen; but included the question of labour with other items to be discussed by the deputation with His Excellency.

Mr. R. MACDONALD SUTOR proposed that the Hon. Secretary of this Association be asked to make a list of those members who are not prepared to abide by Mr. Beattie's resolution relating to the payment of commission on tundu cheques, and that the Hon. Secretary be instructed to send the list to those members who are prepared to abide by it.

It was pointed out by the CHAIRMAN that the Association had no power to enforce this, and after some discussion the resolution received the support of the meeting.

The next proposal, by Mr. A. E. PETER, was as follows, and was discussed in Committee:—That in order to safeguard the interest of *bona fide* purchasers of land,

Government be requested to add the following to the conditions of sale—50 per cent. of the acreage purchased to be developed by the purchaser within five years from date of sale.

Mr. PETER next proposed that the Rubber Thefts Prevention Ordinance No. 21 of 1908 be made applicable to tea and rubber plants, and that Government be requested to take necessary steps to carry this into effect at an early date.

It was resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the Colonial Secretary for consideration.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair proposed by Mr. JAMES DUNCAN.

Mr. DAVIES stated a similar application had come before the last meeting of their Association to establish a beer shop at Kandapola which they refused to support, as they had sad experiences as the result of a beer shop which existed there previously and which had to be discontinued. On that experience he said he would deprecate a license being allowed for a beer shop at Hawa Eliya, in spite of what the Brewery had tried to impress them to the contrary, through the medium of the Press. He was of opinion that their Malabar of coolies got on famously without having the luxury of a glass of beer. He said he was aware that the Brewery had a depôt at Nuwara Eliya and that was close enough for those who desired to patronise it.

The following resolution proposed by Mr. N. W. Davies, and Seconded by Mr. C. L. Tivy was carried unanimously:—"That this Association does not support the application for a license to sell Beer and Porter at Hawa Eliya on the Kandapola Road."

LONDON SCHOOL OF TROPICAL MEDICINE.

The Chairman said a circular had been received from the London School of Tropical Medicine appealing for subscriptions to raise a fund of £100,000. It was resolved to circulate the circular amongst the members.

Read letter *re* Plant Pests.

Mr. DAVIES pointed out that it was a question which every Association should interest themselves in. They were aware that the shot-hole borer, one of the pests, had been slowly infecting the higher elevations and were now to be seen in elevations higher by about 800 feet, than where it was discovered a short time ago, and that the Parent Association would like to have suggestions.

Mr. DRUMMOND HAY said it was a very important matter, and that the shot-hole borer, which had only attacked 500 acres some time ago, had spread and now over fifty thousand acres had been infected with the pest. He was aware of isolated districts being affected as a result of tea seed and plants got from infected areas, and was of opinion that stringent measures should be adopted to prevent pest of any sort spreading.

Read letter *re* Cardamom Thefts.

Read letter of acknowledgment from the District Engineer.

Resolution from the Matale Planters' Association and Kelani Valley Planters' Association were read.

Resolved:—"That these matters be left in abeyance until the results of the Proprietors' Labour Federations' efforts be seen."

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

KANDY DISTRICT PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Preceded by a Committee meeting, a General meeting of the Kandy District Planters' Association was held in the Victoria Commemoration Hall, Kandy, on Saturday afternoon, 21st June. Mr. C. C. du Pre Moore presided, and the others present were Messrs. A. Lee Simpson, G. F. Farquharson, G. J. Murray, Ed. Keith, Gordon Pyper, jr., G. Kenion, W. A. E. Murray, E. F. Home, Harold F. Dalton, Stanley Hillman, A. C. Saxton, Gilbert James, Francis J. Holloway, H. F. Benwell, Dr. J. W. de Hoedt, and Captain F. E. Henderson (Hon. Secretary.)

PROPRIETORS' LABOUR FEDERATION.

The proposed new rules of the Proprietors' Labour Federation were discussed at some length. There was some straight talking, and the proposals were severely criticised. The Press representatives were asked not to report the discussion. Eventually the following motion, proposed by Mr. GORDON PYPER, jr., and seconded by Mr. G. KENION, was adopted:—"That Mr. Layard and Mr. Huyshe Eliot, Chairman of the P. A. and P. L. F., be invited to attend a meeting of the K. D. P. A. to discuss the new rules of the P. L. F. as the publication of the discussion on those rules has been excluded from the Press at the request of Mr. Huyshe Eliot."

KANDY HOSPITAL.

The Hon. Secretary read the following report:—

Katugastota, 17th April, 1913.

THE CHAIRMAN,
Kandy District Planters' Association.

Dear Sir,

Mr. Lee Simpson and myself visited the Kandy General Hospital at 3 p.m. on April 12th. We went through the wards accompanied by Dr. Alwis.

The wards were all clean and well disinfected. There was no overcrowding of patients at the time of our visit. A good many patients had left the hospital owing to the Sinhalese New Year, but Dr. Alwis informed us that there had been no overcrowding.

There is still the old trouble that children come into hospital with their mothers and live in the female wards as there is no special accommodation for them, but we understand that measurements have been taken for a ward for children.

The fly-proof doors and windows that were under construction when last we visited are now completed.

MATERNITY WARD.—There were no patients in.

LATRINES, BATHROOMS, ETC., were clean and disinfected.

KITCHEN.—The food we saw was clean. The old cooking range had been done away with, and an open fire cooking arrangement built, which, together with the four separate boilers for rice, soup, and vegetables, etc., seems suitable. The table where meat and vegetables are chopped and prepared for cooking is the same as when we last visited. The wooden blocks recommended at our last visit for chopping meat, we understand, were ordered by the P. C. M. O. shortly after that visit, and instructions were given to the P. W. D. to make them, but so far they have not been delivered. The present table was not clean, and, being an old one, should be done away with. Nothing appears to have been done about a separate kitchen and cook for the paying patients. This should be considered. Grounds were in good order. At the time of our visit there were 114 patients in the hospital—53 males and 61 females. No European patients in the hospital, and no complaints were made.

EYE-HOSPITAL.—Foundations were being cut for this building and are proposed to be completed by the end of the year.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) GILBERT JAMES,
A. LEE SIMPSON.

The Hon. SECRETARY, continuing, said that he had written to the Acting P. C. M. O. and received the following reply:—

Colombo, 9th June, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Kandy District Planters' Association,
Girigama Estate, Kadugannawa.

Sir,

With reference to your letter dated the 14th ultimo, I have the honour to request you to be so good as to inform the visitors that—

(a) A new kitchen table has been provided and the Medical Officer instructed to purchase chopping blocks; and

(b) No funds are available at present for a kitchen for the paying ward, and the estimates for 1913-14 have been passed. I will consider the question when the next list of works is being submitted.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) G. J. RUTHERFORD,
Acting P. C. M. O. & I. G. H.

Mr. GORDON PYPER remarked that they should ask that the kitchen for the paying wards be erected at once without allowing it to stand over for the next estimates. The kitchen required to be built in the new wards.

Mr. LEE SIMPSON then proposed:—"That the Planters' Ward be moved to the present site of the Female Ward as the new Eye Hospital is shutting out air and light from the present European Ward, and that a kitchen be provided and that supplementary estimates be prepared to cover the buildings."

Mr. GORDON PYPER seconded, and the motion was carried.

OUTSIDE DOCTORS TO ATTEND PATIENTS.

Mr. A. LEE SIMPSON said that it was desirable that patients in the hospital who wished to be attended by any particular outside doctor should be allowed the privilege. He instanced a case in which it was absolutely necessary to get up a doctor from Colombo to see one of the patients in the hospital. He came up to Kandy, but the Doctor at the Kandy Hospital absolutely declined to allow him to see the patient. They had then to wire to Colombo to the Acting P.C.M.O., who immediately telephoned to the Kandy Hospital that that doctor, or any other doctor whom the patients in the hospital wished to see, should be allowed to visit them.

Dr. DE HOEDT:—There is a standing rule in hospitals that no Doctor outside the hospital staff should be allowed to see and treat patients in the hospital.

Mr. LEE SIMPSON remarked that an outside Doctor was forbidden admittance unless approved by the Doctor in charge of the hospital. He then proposed the following motion:—"That in future any patient in the Paying Ward can have any Doctor procurable in Ceylon to attend him if he or his friends so require it, and that the Doctor in charge of the Kandy Hospital be advised to the effect."

Mr. ED. KEITH seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

SEPARATE KITCHEN FOR PAYING PATIENTS.

Mr. GORDON PYPER reverted to the subject of a separate kitchen for the paying patients, and urged that it should be built without any delay.

Dr. DE HOEDT remarked that the P.C.M.O., had written that he would apply for a vote when the next estimates were prepared.

THE HON. SECRETARY:—He said the 1913-14 estimates had been passed, and that the question would be considered when the next estimates were submitted.

Mr. G. F. FARQUHARSON:—A vote for the kitchen can surely be included in the supplementary estimates.

THE HON. SECRETARY:—That is the purpose of our resolution.

Mr. FARQUHARSON:—The resolution should be strongly worded.

Mr. GORDON PYPER:—I think the kitchen is the most important item. The supplementary estimates would take a long time yet.

On the discussion being continued, the CHAIRMAN pointed out that a resolution on the subject had already been passed.

LONDON SCHOOL OF TROPICAL MEDICINE.

The Hon. Secretary read the following letter:—

Kandy, 7th April, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Kandy District Planters' Association.

Dear Sir,

I enclose a circular sent to me by Dr. Bahr for distribution. The immense importance of the objects aimed at by the London School of Tropical Medicine need no emphasis in this country, and I trust that the appeal may meet with support worthy of its ends.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) JOHN STILL,
Secretary, Planters' Association of Ceylon.

The appeal was for £100,000. It stated that a Committee had been formed to raise funds for the extension and development of the London School of Tropical Medicine in order to provide a modest, but adequate endowment fund, to make necessary additions to the laboratories and buildings for the accommodation of the growing number of students, to provide for the active prosecution of research, and to establish a small nursing home for civilians who cannot afford to procure for themselves the special medical and surgical treatment and nursing required in these very special branches of disease.

PLANT PESTS.

The Hon. Secretary read the following correspondence:—

Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy, 14th May, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Kandy District Planters' Association.

Dear Sir,

I am directed to send you a copy of the letter received from the Director of Agriculture, and to inform you that the subject will be brought up at the next meeting of the General Committee of the Planters' Association.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) JOHN STILL,
Secretary, Planters' Association of Ceylon.

Department of Agriculture,
Peradeniya, Ceylon, 9th May, 1913.

THE CHAIRMAN,
Planters' Association, Kandy.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith copy of a resolution passed at the meeting of the Committee of Agricultural

Experiments held on May 8th, 1913, and to beg that you will kindly submit the same to the consideration of the Planters' Association at your earliest convenience.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) R. N. LYNE,
Director of Agriculture.
(Signed) T. PETCH,
for Director.

(Copy of Resolution Referred to.)

Resolved:—"That the Planters' Association be asked whether compulsory proclaiming of plant pests on individual estates is desirable in the interests of the planting industry."

Mr. G. KENION then proposed: "That Government be asked to take measures that all native gardens be included, and to organize a department to enforce those measures."

Mr. ED. KEITH seconded, and the motion was carried.

CARDAMOM THEFTS.

The Hon. Secretary read the following correspondence:—

Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy, 14th May, 1913.

THE HON. SECRETARY,
Kandy District Planters' Association.

Dear Sir,

I enclose copy of a letter written by me to Government and of the reply. Please let me have the information asked for in the second paragraph of the Colonial Secretary's letter as soon as possible, so that we may press this matter to a conclusion.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) JOHN STILL,
Secretary, Planters' Association of Ceylon.

(Correspondence Referred to.)

Planters' Association of Ceylon,
Kandy, 15th January, 1913.

The Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY,
Colombo.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the following resolution was passed at a meeting of my Committee held on the 10th instant: "That the Secretary do write to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary stating that this Committee is satisfied that thefts of cardamoms are very prevalent and asking respectfully that an Ordinance may be drafted on the lines of the Ordinances dealing with thefts of cocoa and rubber."

Cardamom growers of experience have expressed to me their belief that possibly as much as half of their crop is stolen, and they attribute it to the extreme difficulty of obtaining a conviction even when moral certitude exists regarding the ownership of the produce in dispute.

For your further information I enclose a budget of cases of thefts authenticated by Mr. Wm. Sinclair of Rangala.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) JOHN STILL,
Secretary, Planters' Association of Ceylon.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, 13th May, 1913.

THE SECRETARY,
Planters' Association.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 15th January, 1913, I am directed to inform you that His Excellency the Officer administering the Government as at present advised is prepared to approve of the introduction of special legislation for the prevention of thefts of cardamoms on the lines of the Ordinances dealing with thefts of cocoa and of rubber.

2. His Excellency observes, however, that under section 17 of "The Cacao Thefts Prevention Ordinance 1904," the possession or charge of "wet cocoa" has to be accounted for, while in the case of tea and certain other products it is the "unripe produce" which is protected. Before, therefore, directions are given for a Cardamom theft Ordinance to be drafted, His Excellency wishes to know whether any particular kind of cardamoms should be specified in the Ordinance.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) D. W. ARNOTT,
for Colonial Secretary.

VIEWS OF PLANTERS.

The Hon. SECRETARY also submitted a letter from Mr. Ed. Keith who wrote: "Cardamoms have to be dried and undergo much the same treatment as cocoa, and therefore I think if, instead of the word 'wet' as used in the Cocoa Ordinance, the word 'uncured' be used for cardamoms it would meet the case."

Another member wrote: "We want special protection for (1) green fruit (it is difficult to get Government officials to understand that this does not mean unripe fruit; (2) partly cured; (3) fully cured; also that no dealer in cardamoms be licensed without reference to us, a sort of 'local option,' and if it be found that cardamoms are still being stolen that his license be cancelled."

On the motion of Mr. GILBERT JAMES, seconded by Mr. Ed. KEITH, it was resolved that a copy of the letter (from which the extracts just read were quoted) be forwarded to the Parent Association.

POLICE COURT INTERPRETER.

Mr. LEE SIMPSON proposed:—"This Association wish to place on record their high appreciation of the valuable services rendered by Mr. T. G. Puvimasingam, Interpreter to the Police Court, Kandy, to the Kandy district planters, and would like to recommend this gentleman's name to the favourable consideration of Government for some suitable reward."

The CHAIRMAN seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

RECRUITING AGENCY ON THE COAST.

The Hon. Secretary read a letter from the Hon. Secretary of the K.V.P.A. enclosing Mr. Wynell Mayow's resolution.

Mr. G. J. MURRAY proposed: "That while approving of the idea of coast recruiting this Association would like to have more details of what they propose to do."

Mr. GORDON PYPER, while seconding the motion, remarked that that was the second proposal with regard to the solving of the labour problem that came before them that day. Would it not be better to publish those details they asked for in the Press?

The CHAIRMAN:—"We are asking for details for our information."

Mr. GORDON PYPER:—"But Mr. Wynell Mayow might be asked to publish the details of his scheme in the Press, as they are being forwarded to all District Associations."

The Hon. SECRETARY remarked that he did not think it was their business to ask Mr. Wynell Mayow to do that.

Mr. GORDON PYPER did not press the point, and the motion was then carried.

INQUIRER INTO SUDDEN DEATHS.

The Hon. SECRETARY read the following letter:—

The Kachcheri,
Kandy, 9th April, 1913.

The Hon. SECRETARY,
Kandy District Planters' Association,
Yahalatenne, Kandy.

SIR,
I have the honour to inform you that Amnugama Abay-singha Punchi Banda of Teldeniya has been appointed Inquirer into Sudden Deaths for Palispattu East and West Korales in Pata Dumbura, Kandy district.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
(Signed) H. M. M. MOORE,
for Government Agent, C. P.

MINUTES OF P. A. COMMITTEE MEETING.

The Hon. SECRETARY read the following notice from the Secretary of the P. A.:—

As the minutes of the General Committee of the Planters' Association will appear in future in the *Planters' Gazette*, they will not, in addition, be circulated to the district representatives on the General Committee with the agendas as usual.

(Signed) JOHN STILL,
Secretary, Planters' Association of Ceylon.
This brought the meeting to a close.

UDAPUSSELLAWA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A General Meeting of the above Association was held at the Udapussellawa Gymkhana Club Pavillion on Monday, 30th June, 1913, at 3 p.m.

Present:—Messrs. W. H. Biddulph (Chairman), A. C. Wilson, W. A. Gordon, C. J. Owen, C. A. Johnson, V. Ferne Edwards, J. M. Urquhart, E. E. Nicol, E. T. C. Farr, R. C. Bingham, Newlands, C. Boswell, and A. Glennie (Hon. Secretary.) Visitors: A. J. P. Armstrong, D. F. Burton, and H. F. Thompson.

The minutes of the last General Meeting were confirmed.

MECHANICAL TRANSPORT.

The Chairman referring to the question of Mechanical Transport which had been discussed when H. H. the Acting Governor visited the district in May—said "that His Excellency thought if the estates concerned would join in the construction of an Aerial Tramway and work it themselves, Government would be happy to assist with any advice and information, and perhaps with a loan for cost of construction. The probability is that there would be no difficulties raised by Government in regard to control. My own views as regards Motor Transport is that the roads would not stand any form of motor lorry, and that to put motors on the road may prove to be merely a temporary makeshift and not a permanent solution of our difficulty. I think we should appoint a sub-Committee to deal with the whole question."

The Hon. Secretary read a letter from Mr. C. C. Wilson on the subject of Motor Transport, in which it was stated that under certain circumstances the cost of Motor Transport per ton mile could be reduced to 50 cents working with two trips daily from both ends. The Chair-

man remarked that if produce could be transported at 50 cents instead of 62 cents which it now cost, that would meet our difficulty for the present. A small syndicate could take it up and work it. The view was expressed that the proposed ropeway would in no way interfere with the construction of the St. Margarets-Kirklees Cart Road Extension.

The following sub-Committee was then appointed :—

Messrs. V. Ferne Edwards, E. T. C. Farr and the Chairman and Hon. Secretary.

After some remarks by the Chairman appreciative of the work done by Dr. Langley Hunt during his recent visit to the district for the purpose of inspecting lines, the following Resolution was unanimously carried. "That this Association records its appreciation of the Acting P. C. M. O.'s courtesy in sending Dr. Langley Hunt at their request to assist Superintendents who wished for advice in the matter of lines sanitation."

Mr. A. C. Wilson then proposed, and it was unanimously carried "that a cordial vote of thanks be recorded to Dr. Langley Hunt for the thorough way in which he carried out his inspection, and for the useful hints he gave with regard to 'lines.'"

The condition of the Kandy Cemetery was next discussed, and Mr. P. R. Shand's letter on the subject was read. The Chairman suggested that efforts should not be confined only to the Kandy Cemetery, but that all cemeteries where British Troops or Planters were buried should receive attention. A subscription list was then circulated.

A Resolution from the Kelani Valley P. A. was brought before the Meeting, relating to a Recruiting Agency at the Coast, but owing to insufficient information as to what was proposed to be done, and in view of the fact that the Proprietors' Labour Federation was to work with the Planters' Association in striking out new lines with the above object, the Resolution was not supported.

A Resolution from the Committee of Agricultural Experiments, forwarded by the Secretary of Parent Association, was read as follows:—"That the Planters' Associations be asked whether the compulsory proclaiming of Plant Pests on individual Estates was desirable in the interests of the Planting Industry."

It was Resolved:—"That this Association considers the compulsory proclaiming of Plants Pests on individual estates to be eminently desirable."

A letter from Government was read in which it was stated that Government intends to improve the more dangerous corners during the next financial year.

It was decided on the invitation of the Udapussellawa Gymkhana Club, to hold the Association meetings at the Club House in future.

It was announced that Government had connected up the Ragalla and Udapussellawa Telephone Exchanges.

Proposed by Mr. A. C. Wilson and seconded by Mr. E. E. Nicol "That a Committee be appointed to prepare business to be placed before General Meetings, and perform the duties of such a Committee." Carried *nem con*.

The following Committee was then elected by ballot:—

Messrs. A. C. Wilson, E. E. Nicol, W. A. Gordon, J. M. Urquhart, E. T. C. Farr, C. J. Owen and the Chairman and Hon. Secretary, *ex-officio*.

Mr. A. C. Wilson then moved "that the District Labour Federation be continued for another year." This was seconded by Mr. W. A. Gordon, and carried unanimously. Mr. J. M. Urquhart alone being unable to join.

Mr. A. Glennie moved "that as most estates in the Nuwara Eliya P. A. have joined our Local Labour Federation, they be again asked to join for another year, and that a full list of estates agreeing to join be printed and circulated amongst the members of both Associations; and that the Maturata P. A. be again asked to join the Federation."

Seconded by Mr. W. A. Gordon and carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks to the Chair, proposed by Mr. A. C. Wilson and seconded by Mr. E. E. Nicol, terminated the meeting.

A. GLENNIE,
Hon. Secretary,
Udapussellawa P. A.

KELANI VALLEY PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Kelani Valley Planters' Association was held at the Kelani Valley Club, Talduva, on Saturday, July 5th, Mr. Tom Hyatt, Chairman, presiding over a full attendance. Those present included Messrs. J. Bayly, P. G. Wood, D. I. Mackenzie, R. W. Bell, F. J. Duncan, W. De la Hoyde, M. J. Paine, H. B. Paine, A. W. Jones, J. M. Manhuzer, R. S. G. Robinson, E. F. Horsfall, Charles B. Collisson, F. B. Muir, Geoffrey Binns, I. L. Cameron, A. W. Ruxton, Frank C. Murray, H. L. Carter, Charles Bouchier, J. F. Elford, D. N. Williamson, A. J. Martin, L. S. Candy, E. W. Ellis, S. Carry, L. H. Cantlay, H. C. Otter, C. S. Nicol, H. H. Wiles, N. D. Evans, K. I. T. Morland, G. E. B. Edge, R. B. Gillespie, A. Cochrane, J. H. Wynnell-Mayow, H. L. Roch, W. Astell, G. W. Neave, A. M. Carmichael, T. Petch, J. S. Scott, E. T. Grigg, W. E. Bertill, C. J. R. Marshall, B. L. Paines, David Cameron, J. C. L. Brereton, H. L. Murray, and the Hon. Secretary (Mr. R. H. Villiers).

VOTES OF CONDOLENCE.

At the commencement of the meeting the CHAIRMAN said: "I very much regret to have to refer to the death, which has taken place since the last meeting of the Association, of a very good friend to many of us and a very good friend to the Association, Mr. Dawkin. There are a great many of Mr. Dawkin's personal friends in the room, and it is not necessary for me to tell them what an excellent man he was, but I must say that he was one of the very best men who ever came to the Kelani Valley."

Mr. HYATT then moved that the Hon. Secretary be requested to write to the deceased's relatives at home expressing the Association's condolence, and the motion was carried in silence, the members standing.

The CHAIRMAN also referred to the deaths of Mr. Frank Vizard and the Rev. Fathers Delebecque and Neut of the Belgium Mission. It was agreed to send a letter of condolence to Mrs. Vizard, and, in speaking of the deaths of the two priests, Mr. Hyatt said that if any men did play the game in Ceylon it was the Fathers of the Belgium Mission. He proposed that the Association, as an expres-

sion of their appreciation of the work of the departed Fathers, should make a contribution of Rs. 50 towards the Bell Tower which the Mission was erecting in the district, and the meeting agreed.

KITULGALLA HOSPITAL.

Some very interesting correspondence with reference to the proposed Hospital at Kitulgalla was then read. The matter arose from a protest made by Mr. A. M. Carmichael, of Gonagama estate, Kitulgalla, at the delay in commencing the work of erecting the Hospital. As a result of this protest Mr. R. H. Villiers (Hon. Secretary of the Association) saw the P.C.M.O., and on April 9th wrote to Mr. Carmichael as follows:—"Since our meeting of April 5th I have seen the Principal Medical Officer who told me he had just returned from Kitulgalla where he had been to inspect the work on the Kitulgalla Hospital. He had found work in the foundations already begun. In view of this I write to ask whether you still wish the matter pressed at this juncture."

MR. CARMICHAEL'S BEWILDERMENT.

In reply to this Mr. Carmichael wrote: "I cannot understand the P.C.M.O.'s statement that work on this Hospital has been started. I went to the site yesterday and could see no signs of anything being done—the land is not yet cleared and it seems doubtful, from what I hear, if it has been acquired yet. As there evidently seems to be some mistake somewhere I should be much obliged if you would write again to the P.C.M.O."

THE P.C.M.O.'S MISTAKE.

Upon receipt of this communication Mr. Villiers again wrote to the P.C.M.O. enclosing Mr. Carmichael's letter:—"I have the honour to draw your attention to the enclosed letter from a gentleman of this District Planters' Association re the Kitulgalla Hospital, and request you to be good enough to give me any information as to what progress is being made with the erection of the Hospital. The statement of the P.C.M.O. referred to is a repetition of the conversation I had the pleasure of having with that officer in Colombo, from which I gathered that work in the foundations was in hand."

The acting P.C.M.O. and Inspector-General of Hospitals (Dr. G. J. Rutherford) replied personally: "With reference to your letter re Kitulgalla Hospital, I regret I was in error as to the buildings having been commenced. I understood it was to be started some time ago. I have written to the Provincial Engineer, Sabaragamuwa, and will let you know the reply."

ESTIMATE NOT SANCTIONED.

A fortnight later Mr. Villiers received a further letter from the P. C. M. O.'s office stating that "as the Provincial Engineer, Sabaragamuwa, had not (on May 8th) received the sanction to the estimate he could not reply to the question as to when the building of the Kitulgalla Hospital would be commenced."

Mr. Villiers then wrote to the Provincial Engineer, Sabaragamuwa, asking "whether the estimates for the Kitulgalla Hospital had been passed, and, if so, when work on this much-needed Hospital would be commenced."

SITE NOT ACQUIRED.

On May 30th the Provincial Engineer, Sabaragamuwa, replied: "I have just received instructions to commence work on the Kitulgalla Hospital. The site has not yet been acquired."

STILL FURTHER DELAY.

The final letter of the correspondence was from the P.C.M.O. (Dr. Rutherford) and was dated June 25th. It read:—"I visited the site (of the Kitulgalla Hospital) with the Provincial Engineer, Sabaragamuwa, last week and he informed me that he hoped to start to clear the ground in a month's time. The delay has been due to the difficulties in acquiring the land, the owners' objection to part with it. I have written to the Assistant Government Agent, Kegalle, to try and expedite matters."

REFERRED TO MEDICAL WANTS COMMITTEE.

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. Villiers) said that, as they knew, the supply bill of this year provided for the erection of two Hospitals, one at Kendangamuwa and the other at Kitulgalla. Copies of the whole correspondence had been sent to Mr. F. Layard (Chairman of the P. A. of Ceylon) and he (Mr. Villiers) had written to the Medical Wants Committee and had received and acknowledgment from the Secretary.

MOST DISGRACEFUL.

The Chairman: I think this is one of the most disgraceful things that has ever been brought before this Association. At the beginning of April we are told that the work has been started on the Hospital, nearly two months later we learn that the site had not even been acquired, and a month after this the hope is officially expressed that the work of clearing the ground would be started in four weeks time. At this rate we may expect a Hospital in about forty years' time, when we shall probably all be dead and not need one.

DR. RUTHERFORD VINDICATED.

Mr. Villiers said he thought the Chairman was rather labouring the point so far as the P.C.M.O. was concerned "When Dr. Rutherford told me he had visited the site, and that work had been commenced on the foundations he must have been thinking of some other hospital. When I forwarded Mr. Carmichael's letter he immediately replied that he had since discovered that he had made a mistake. Mr. Villiers thought they could not blame Dr. Rutherford who was acting as P.C.M.O.; the fault lay with the P.C.M.O. who had ample time, before he proceeded to England on holiday, to find out whether the site had been acquired and to make arrangements for the commencement of the work without delay. The matter was an urgent one, and should have been treated as such."

OFFICIALS ON THE SITE.

Mr. Carmichael thought the P.C.M.O. should have seen the work started long ago. However, the Assistant Government Agent and all his staff were on the site that day, and he hoped this was an indication that some thing definite was about to be done.

URGENCY ATTENDANCE GRIEVANCE.

Mr. E. W. Ellis, of Labugama Estate, said that while they were on hospital matters he had a point which he was anxious to raise. A short while ago he had occasion to send an urgent message to the District Civil Medical Officer in his area to attend a cooly. He received a reply to the effect that his estate was not scheduled to the Avisawella Hospital, but to the Hanwella Dispensary. He would have to send first of all to the Hanwella Dispensary, several miles away, and obtain a recommendation from the

apothecary there. This recommendation would then have to be taken to the D.C.M.O. at Avisawella who would then attend the case. "By the time the D.C.M.O. eventually arrived," said Mr. Ellis, "the coolies would most probably be dead and buried. I should like to propose that estates in our district at present scheduled to dispensaries should be schedule the Avisawella Hospital."

A GOVERNMENT CONCESSION.

Mr. VILLIERS said he had correspondence bearing upon the point which had already been raised successfully. Following previous correspondence he wrote to the P.C.M.O. on April 9th as follows: "I am directed by my Association to request your favourable consideration and approval of a suggestion that it should be left to the discretion of the superintendents of estates whether they call in the D.M.O. or not, that is to say, superintendents of such estates in this district as are scheduled to dispensaries, and have at present no direct call on the D.M.O., as in many cases the calling in of an apothecary and the subsequent delay in sending for the D.M.O. might be fatal to the case in question, distances in many cases being very great." In reply the Acting P.C.M.O. wrote "in the case of serious illness the superintendent may be allowed to call the D.M.O., although the estate be scheduled to a dispensary, but they must remember that the D.M.O. and the D.M. Assistant of Karawanella have a very large district, and the concession must be used with great discretion. On the opening of the Undugoda-Kitulgalla and Kendangamuwa Hospital, the services of medical officers will be more easily obtainable."

TAKING ON OF COOLIES.

Returning to the correspondence Mr. Villiers said he had received a letter from Mr. M. S. Davidson asking for information as to any new rules or regulations made by the Association with reference to the taking on of coolies from other estates. To this, Mr. Villiers explained, a reply had been sent that no rules or regulations existed, but that the Association encouraged recruiting from the Coast.

NEW RULES AND REGULATIONS.

It was unanimously agreed that a new book of rules and regulations of the Association be drawn up for the current year, and the Chairman, Secretary and Messrs. R. I. Mackenzie and F. J. Duncan were appointed as a sub-Committee to deal with the matter and report.

KANDY CEMETERIES APPEAL.

A letter was read from Mr. P. R. Shand appealing for subscriptions to the fund which is being raised to help defray the cost of necessary repairs to the walls of the cemeteries at Kandy.

The CHAIRMAN said the object was a deserving one, and any who cared to subscribe should send their five rupees (which was the limit subscription) direct to the account of the Kandy Cemeteries Reclamation Fund, National Bank of India.

AVISAWELLA AND A COURT.

In view of the strong feeling which exists in the Kelani Valley in favour of the establishment of a District Court at Avisawella the following correspondence, which was read, is of particular interest:—

In reply to a letter from the K. V. Association asking the P. A. of Ceylon to support the application, Mr. John Still (Secretary of the P. A. of Ceylon) wrote on March 17th last "I am directed to invite you to prepare a statement of facts which will suffice to prove the need of a District Court at Avisawella. If your case proves to be a good one it will be taken up by the Hon. the Rural Member of Council."

GATHERING STATISTICS.

With the object of preparing a case Mr. Villiers wrote for statistics to the Ratnapura-Colombo and Kegalla District Courts. His letter was as follows:—"I am directed to inquire from you the number of cases, criminal and civil, committed to the Kegalla (Colombo or Ratnapura) District Court during the years 1911-12, and I would be very much obliged if you would be good enough to give me the required information."

The result of three replies was as below:—

		Civil Cases.	Criminal Cases.
Kegalla	(1911)	44	24
"	(1912)	42	14
Ratnapura	(1911)	4	—
"	(1912)	2	—
Colombo	(1911)	—	24
"	(1912)	—	17
Total for	(1911)	48	48
"	(1912)	44	31

FURTHER FIGURES ASKED FOR.

Subsequently Mr. Villiers sent the further request to the District Judges of the three Courts named:—

"I have the honour to request you to be good enough to let me have the number of District Court civil cases, including testamentary, which have been instituted during the years 1911-12 from the villages appearing in the annexed list. I shall be obliged if you will returned the list with the desired information at your earliest convenience."

KEGALLA AND RATNAPURA COMPLY.

The required information was promptly forthcoming from the District Judges at Kegalla and Ratnapura.

The returns may be summarised as follows:—

Kegalla	...	112 cases.
Ratnapura	...	32 cases.

COLOMBO CLERKS TOO BUSY.

The District Judge of Colombo replied that he was very sorry, but the clerks at his Court had not sufficient time to prepare the statistics for which the Association asked.

MR. VILLIERS' PROTEST.

Mr. Villiers then wrote to the Hon. Colonial Secretary enclosing the reply sent by the District Judge of Colombo, as below:—

AVISAWELLA DISTRICT COURT.

Sir,

I have the honour to bring this matter to your notice and request your assistance in obtaining the figures required to support our application for this long felt want and much desired concession, and enclose for your perusal correspondence between this Association and the District Judge of Colombo. We have no doubt the staff of the

Colombo Court is kept very busy, but think, in so important a matter, the same courtesy might have been expected from Colombo as from Ratnapura and Kegalla, both of which replied at once giving fully the information asked for. We are of opinion that the extent and importance of this district, together with its very large population, both European and native, fully justify the establishment of a district court at Avisawella. At present D. C. cases have to be referred to Colombo, Ratnapura or Kegalla, involving, in many cases, three or four days' journey, great expense and loss of valuable time. We thought a direct application to the District Judge of Colombo would have been the proper procedure to obtain the figures required, but apparently it needs a higher authority to persuade this officer to give them. Trusting, therefore, to your good offices in the matter.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

(Signed) R. H. VILLIERS,

Hon. Sec.

(COLONIAL SECRETARY'S FORMAL REPLY.)

A formal letter of acknowledgment was received from the Colonial Secretary's Office.

WATCHMEN AT LEVEL-CROSSINGS.

The suggestion put forward at the last meeting by Mr. P. G. Wood that the railway authorities be asked to allow pensioners to act as watchmen at the level-crossings on the Kelani Valley railway line was the subject of a further letter from the Hon. Secretary to the General Manager of the Ceylon Government Railways. This letter asked Mr. G. P. Greene to reconsider his decision as regards watchmen for level-crossings and suggesting that pensioners might act. The present warning boards were not considered sufficient, and the necessity of gates at many of the worst crossings was pointed out. The letter further urged that the level-crossing gates at Avisawella be widened and placed at a more convenient angle with approach roads. At present, owing to the narrowness of the roads and the angle at which the gates are placed, it was a matter of some difficulty to get through them.

MR. GREENE'S REPLY.

In reply Mr. Greene regretted that he could not reconsider his decision regarding the placing of watchmen at level-crossings. "A sum of money is provided in the estimates for the next financial year for improving the sight of the various crossings on the Kelani Valley and Ratnapura lines as far as possible, and this work will be put in hand early. Notice boards have been erected to give adequate warning to the public using the roads that a level-crossing is being approached, and I consider that it will be a matter for the exercise of common caution on the part of those using the roads when approaching the crossings. With regard to the level-crossing at Avisawella, instructions have been given for the gates to be altered."

THE GOVERNMENT VETERINARY STAFF.

Some discussion arose out of correspondence which had passed between Mr. Villiers and the Colonial Secretary relative to the inadequacy of the present staff of Government Veterinary Surgeons.

In April last, a serious outbreak of Hoof and Mouth Disease occurred in the district around Wahakula and Morewatta villages, and the Association, at its last meeting, passed a resolution protesting against the inadequacy of the Government veterinary staff which rendered it impossible for such contingencies to be met effectively. This resolution was sent to the various Planters' Associations of the Island and was supported by practically the whole of them. Subsequently the veterinary staff was increased by

TREE STOCK INSPECTORS.

At this stage Mr. Villiers wrote to the Colonial Secretary stating that the Association were of opinion that the increase of the veterinary staff by three stock inspectors was totally insufficient considering the cattle disease was rampant in the district and showed little sign of abatement. In conclusion the writer asked the Colonial Secretary to press the veterinary department for a considerably greater addition to the staff. The reply received from the Colonial Office was to the effect that the Government regretted being unable to make further additions to the staff of the veterinary department at present.

Mr. VILLIERS expressed the opinion that this was a matter which ought to be further pressed forward by the Association. Hoof and mouth disease was very prevalent in many parts of the island as well as in their district, transport was being held up, and the whole work of many estates was dislocated. The appointment of three additional stock inspectors who went from place to place looking at suspected animals, remarking "Yes that is hoof and mouth disease" and passing on was of little value. What was really wanted, and wanted badly, was a considerable addition to the Government's staff of

VETERINARY SURGEONS

and not more stock inspectors. "At the present moment" he declared "I believe there are only two Government veterinary surgeons in the Island."

MR. MARSHALL'S RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. MARSHALL proposed, and Mr. HAWKINS seconded, "That this Association respectfully requests the Government to appoint two permanent stock inspectors, one to be stationed at Yatiyantota and the other at Avisawella."

There was some discussion as to whether it would not be better to press for an increase in the staff of veterinary surgeons. "Stock inspectors are impotent" one member declared. "They cannot say shoot that cow; it has hoof and mouth disease. They can only make a report."

"That is hardly the case" said another member "for stock inspectors can now write for and obtain orders for the shooting of infected animals."

The resolution was ultimately carried *nem con.*

S. P. C. A. LOCAL AGENT.

It was reported that Mr. A. Salvin Bowlby, of Taldua, had accepted the post of local agent of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in succession to Mr. Trafford Lewes, resigned.

THE PADRE SCHEME.

With reference to the Padre Scheme the Chairman stated that a sub-Committee had been appointed to go into the matter. That sub-Committee had met and had decided to circularise the firms interested as to whether they would

be willing to support a scheme for providing the district with a European padre and doctor. The suggested covering salary was £300 a year which would be met by a levy of 15 cents. per cultivated acre. The firms circulated in Colombo had mostly replied to the effect that it would be necessary for them to write home and obtain permission before they could promise to support such a scheme. The matter was now as it was before, but the Association was expecting to hear from the firms circulated when they received instructions on the matter from home.

CHAIRMAN'S STRONG PROTEST.

While the multitudinous correspondence was being dealt with more than half the members present had slipped, more or less silently, out of the room. Looking around the Chairman said: "The next matter on the agenda is motor transport, but, unfortunately, the gentlemen who desired to bring it forward is not in the room at the present moment. I think it is exceedingly unfair and it is certainly very discouraging to Mr. Villiers and to me for members to leave the meeting in this way particularly when they have resolutions on the agenda in their name. Mr. Villiers and I attend these meetings at a good deal of inconvenience to ourselves and we undertake a good deal of work, for which we are not paid and for which we seldom receive thanks. Men want things done in the district road improved and made fit for motor transport bridges strengthened and the like for their especial benefit, and yet after Mr. Villiers has put himself to much trouble in writing scores of letters, these men do not display sufficient interest in the matters to remain in this room half an hour while the meeting is in progress.

I think it reflects discredit upon the whole of the planters and particularly upon some of the older planters who were here earlier in the proceedings."

Mr. M. J. PAINE: It is a reflection on the chair. Hear, hear.)

(LETTER FROM MESSRS. WALKER, SONS & Co.

In reply to a request as to whether they had an expert in motor transport whom they could send to the meeting of the Association that day Messrs. Walker, Sons & Co., Ltd., regretted that they had no one at the time whom they could send to the meeting. "As importers" the letter continued "we are looking forward to the time when Government will give permission for a larger lorry for use on country roads than is possible under the present specification, which allows of only 1½ tons per axle."

MR. F. D. SHERRIFF MITCHELL AND TRANSPORT SCHEME.

Mr. F. D. Sherriff Mitchell wrote asking the members of the Association to furnish him with the following information as data to aid him in devising Transport Schemes:—

(1) The approximate distance of the respective estates from the railway stations. (2) The approximate weight per month of the produce sent to Colombo. (3) The approximate amount of manure transported from Colombo to the estate yearly, mentioning the months in which manure is usually transported. (4) The approximate amount of rice required monthly. (5) Rates to carting contractors on produce, rice, manure, and materials.

Mr. Sherriff Mitchell's address is College House, Darley Road.

MOTOR TRANSPORT.

The CHAIRMAN said he understood that the use of motor lorries to a considerable extent as a means of transport in the Kelani Valley had been realised by Government, and that provision had been made in the current year's supply bill for widening the roads to make passing places at every mile and fractional mile post as a preliminary to widening the roads throughout their whole length. This would take time, but he believed that 20 years hence they would see motor lorries running all over the Island. The great trouble the Government had to face was the lack of labour, for, even if they had the money to double the width of the whole of the roads in Ceylon, they could not possibly do it for want of labour.

THE VEYANGODA BRIDGE.

In accordance with notice of motion given Mr. D. N. WILLIAMSON moved "That the Government be asked to begin at once the strengthening of the bridge at Veyangoda so as to enable motor lorries to pass over it."

In doing so Mr. Williamson mentioned that the bridge, which was within 50 yards of the railway line and 100 yards of the station, was about 50 feet broad. It spanned "an empty, muddy creek." The Government had given him and other planters in the Ruwanwella district permission to run motor lorries from the factory to the Kandy road, but they would not be allowed to do the other three miles to Veyangoda station. "It is unnecessary to say," he continued, "that it is impossible for planters in the Ruwanwella district to run motor lorries a few miles, and then transfer to bullock carts in order to complete the journey. If this bridge was strengthened they could give us permission to run right through to the station. The Government had, in fact, promised to rebuild or strengthen it in some way as soon as possible, but they knew what Government promises sometimes were. Rinderpest was very bad in the district, and it was most important that motor transport should be rendered possible without delay.

Mr. D. I. MACKENZIE seconded, and the resolution was carried.

Mr. Duncan said he thought Mr. Williamson's remarks applied with equal force to many other roads in the district, but Mr. Williamson pointed out that the Government had definitely promised to rebuild or strengthen this bridge.

COOLY DEPÔT AND COLOMBO.

The meeting unanimously supported the following resolution, sent forward by the Sabaragamuwa Planters' Association.—"On account of the difficulties experienced in Colombo by our coolies going from Ceylon to India to recruit that the C. L. C. Committee be asked to open a depôt in Colombo similar to the one at Tuticorin with a staff of peons to meet the trains, and then escort the coolies to the steamer after they have been supplied with the necessary ticket at the depôt."

QUESTION OF LAW ETIQUETTE.

PICTURE POSTCARD TO GO BEFORE LAW SOCIETY.

Mr. E. W. Ellis wrote enclosing a postcard received by his head kangany. "There can be no doubt, I think" he wrote "that the author of this interesting postcard would not be doing this sort of thing for his health, and it would be interesting to find out whether other members of this Association have had similar cases."

The postcard referred to read as follows :—"Your case is for 20th instant. Come at once. I want to take further instructions. (The rest was in Tamil which read as follows :—) I will arrange to keep you on (or secure) a good estate. Come and see me on receipt of this without delay."

Yours, etc. (in Tamil),
(Signed) V. E. RAJANAYAGAM,
Proctor (in Tamil.)

Addressed

S. P. Vellamy Hd. Ky.

Tunmodera Estate (Labugama), Waga.

It was agreed to send the postcard to the Secretary of the Incorporated Law Society of Ceylon.

KENDENGAMUWA-DEHIOWITA ROAD.

The SECRETARY reported that a formal acknowledgment had been received from the Colonial Secretary's Office of the receipt of a letter asking that the Kendangamuwa-Dehiowita Road (Woodend) to Algoda section) should be taken over.

RUBBER TREE DISEASES.

An interesting paper on "Rubber Tree Diseases" was read by Mr. T. Petch, Government Mycologist of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Peradeniya. Mr. Petch laughingly declared that he had no new diseases to offer them, but gave hints as to the treatment of canker in its various stages and of rot.

He was warmly thanked by the meeting.

We hope to publish the paper and the discussion later.

HEWAHETA PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

A Committee meeting of the above Association was held at Patiagama Club House on Saturday, the 5th July, 1913, at 1-30 p.m., followed by a general meeting, at which the following members were present :—Messrs. L. A. Ewart (Chairman), J. B. Rennie, J. L. Tancock, Campbell Dudley, W. E. Sparling, W. C. Hawkes, G. W. Harris, A. R. Trotter and W. M. Newton (Hon. Secretary).

Notice calling the meeting was read by the Chairman, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The accounts for the half-year were laid on the table and the following business was then proceeded with.

ELECTION OF AN HON. SECRETARY.

The CHAIRMAN proposed that Mr. Newton be elected as Hon. Secretary for the ensuing six months.—Passed unanimously.

TAVERNS.

The CHAIRMAN went on to say that the proposed site at Bopitiya was objected to and an alternative site was proposed, namely, in Patiagama caddies as near the Post Office as possible, and he understood that in private letters to the Government Agent one or two gentlemen of the district objected to this site. He believed that Government had now arranged to let this tavern at Pallegama remain where it originally was.

Two notices were read from the Government Agent of proposals to open toddy taverns in June, 1913, situate at Deltota and Palle Deltota.

Mr. DUDLEY said that excessive drinking among natives in parts of Upper Hewaheta seemed very bad indeed, and that it was the adulteration and retailing of arrack on the estates that was doing so much harm. He suggested that if liquor licenses were granted for the consumption on the premises only matters could be kept in hand.

He also wished to point out that large quantities of liquor were being carried about by coolies without a pass, which he believed was necessary, and he urged that that information should be obtained on this point.

Mr. Hawkes and Mr. Sparling both agreed with Mr. Dudley's remarks.

Mr. Tancock proposed that in future in reply to notices from the Government Agent stating that it was proposed to open a tavern for the sale of toddy or arrack, the Honorary Secretary be requested to say that this Association trusts that a license for consumption of liquor on the premises only will be issued.

This resolution was seconded by Mr. HAWKES and carried.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The resolution from the Dikoya Planters' Association on the subject of road grants was supported by all present.

Mr. J. H. WYNELL MAYOW's resolution from the Kelani Valley Planters' Association was read, and it was resolved to await the result of the revised rules of the Proprietors' Labour Federation.

A letter was read from the Secretary of the Planters' Association of Ceylon with a copy of a resolution passed at a meeting of the Committee of Agricultural Experiments dealing with Plant Pests, and it was resolved that the public proclaiming of Plant Pests on individual estates was desirable if native gardens were included.

The Saharagamuwa Planters' Association's resolution re the opening of a cooly depot in Colombo was next read, but did not receive support, as it was thought an unnecessary expense.

Read letter from the Ceylon Nursing Association and Mr. HAWKES proposed, and Mr. DUDLEY seconded, that Mr. Ewart be appointed representative of the Hewaheta district on the General Committee of that Association.—Carried.

Read letter from the Secretary of the Planters' Association of Ceylon and Circular sent by Dr. Bahr which has reference to the London School of Tropical Medicine's appeal for funds, and the CHAIRMAN remarked that the extension and development of this institution concerned all of them, and he thought it was worthy of their warmest support.

A letter was read from Mr. C. A. Grant resigning his membership of the Kandy Committee and the Planters' Benevolent Fund, and, on the proposal of the CHAIRMAN, Mr. Dudley was elected in his place.

MOTOR TRANSPORT.

A letter was read from a Sinhalese contractor stating that he wished to put a motor lorry on the road, and asking for the support of the Association in obtaining the necessary permission from Government, and it was unanimously resolved to support this application.

Mr. Sherriff Mitchell's letter *re* the subject of motor transport was considered, and the Chairman suggested that interested members should send him the information asked for. Applications for permission to run motor lorries on the Peradeniya-Deltota road have been made to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary on behalf of several interested parties.

ROADS.

Replies to the Director of Public Works with regard to the metalling of the Deltota-Rahatungoda road in 1914 were read, and Mr. Tancook proposed that this Association regrets that although a copy of the resolution passed at the last meeting of this Association was sent to the Director of Public Works on the 8th March, 1913, a definite answer has not yet been received and requests such an answer at an early date. This was seconded by Mr. SPARLING and carried.

In reply to the resolution passed at the last meeting of this Association with reference to the running of motor lorries on the Peradeniya-Deltota road, the CHAIRMAN said that he had received a letter from the Director of Public Works dated the 27th June, 1913, stating that it is anticipated that the construction of passing places on the above road will be undertaken during the coming financial year, 1913-1914.

A letter from Mr. A. M. Clarke was read severely criticising the condition of the Hewaheta-Kandy road, and it was resolved to call the attention of the District Engineer to the bad quality of the metal used, and to the very inadequate rolling it appears to have received.

ROAD GRANTS.

It was decided that application should be made to the District Road Committees to appoint representatives of the Association on both the Kandy and Nuwara Eliya District Road Committees.

A sum of Rs. 5 per month was voted by this Association towards the salary of a clerk for the ensuing six months.

The meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman.

KOTMALE PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

GENERAL MEETING.

A general meeting of the Kotmale Planters' Association was held in the K. S. C. Pavilion on Tuesday, July 8th, at 3 p.m. Present:—Messrs. A. J. A. Dickson (Chairman), A. Kennedy, J. W. Bennett, J. S. Richardson, C. W. Bovy-Lysberg, C. S. M. Bain, D. C. Mortimer, G. W. Mortimer, Captain Richard, A. Hall (visitor) and F. S. Elson Hon. (Secretary).

CORRESPONDENCE.

Read letters of appointment of Mr. O. Balean as J. P. and U.P.M. *vice* Mr. M. S. Milne, and Mr. J. S. Richardson as Visitor to Kotmale Dispensary *vice* Mr. H. C. Carmichael.

KANDY CEMETERY.

Subscription list circulated.

ROADS.

Read letter from D. E. *re* complaint of state of roads and quarries, which the meeting trusts will receive attention of the new officer appointed.

INSPECTOR OF MEAT.

Read correspondence *re* new Draft Ordinance in preparation.

DISTRICT ROADS.

Notified that a grant of Rs. 75 is allotted to upkeep Kataboola-Dimbula Gap road.

LABOUR.

Considered rules of Proprietors' Labour Federation discussed in Committee.

It was proposed from the chair that the K. V. P. A. resolution, *re* recruiting, stand over till the revised rules of the P. L. F. have been dealt with and he left in the hands of that body, and that the Hon. Secretary be instructed to acknowledge receipt of the K. V. Resolution.

PLANT PESTS.

Read letter from Central P. A. *re* proclamation of infected areas.

Proposed from the chair:—"That the compulsory proclaiming of individual estates inspected by Plant Pests be enforced."—Carried.

AERIAL ROPEWAY AND MOTOR TRACTION.

The CHAIRMAN at great length explained the situation and conditions relative to aerial ropeway to serve Kotmale district delivering produce at Hangran Oya siding.

After general discussion it was resolved that the necessary figures asked for by the consulting Engineers be furnished, with a view to eliciting the cost after preliminary survey has been undertaken.

TELEPHONES.

Read correspondence with Messrs. Brown & Co. Necessary support from Nawalapitiya residents, etc., have not been forthcoming, and the scale fixed by Government for subscribers outside town limits being prohibitive it was proposed by Mr. RICHARDSON, seconded by Mr. BENNETT:—"That figures in possession of the Association as furnished by a private firm be carefully tabulated and circulated among residents in Kotmale, and a fresh start be made in the ultimate hope of achievement."—Carried.

CATTLE DISEASE.

Proposed from the chair:—"That in the event of an outbreak of cattle disease all interested be duly notified by the Hon. Secretary."—Carried.

ELECTION OF OFFICE-BEARERS.

To fill vacancies—Kandy Committee, Mr. C. W. Bovy-Lysberg; P. B. F. representative, Mr. C. W. Bovy-Lysberg; Local Committee, Messrs. C. W. Lysberg and D. C. Mortimer; auditor, Mr. A. Kennedy, Hon. Secretary Mr. J. S. Richardson.

RULES.

Proposed from the chair *re* Rule II:—"That the words 'last week' be deleted and rule read 'during the month of . . .'"—Carried.

SANITATION.

Intimated that the Acting P. C. M. O. would be glad to allow the services of a Sanitary Inspector to advise *re* sanitation of lines, provided three or four estates apply for such service.

A vote of thanks to the chair, proposed by Mr. BENNETT, brought the meeting to a close.

(Signed) J. S. RICHARDSON,

Hon. Secretary, Kotmale P. A.

